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H. W. Gibson.

State Boys' Secretary September 1, 1903—

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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF ORGANIZED BOYS WORK

IN MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND

1891-1915

H. W. GIBSON
Author of "Camping for Boys," "Services of Worship for Boys"

Published by the
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND
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1915

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FRANCIS O. WINSLOW

To whom this volume is dedicated

Youthful in spirit, wise in counsel
A servant of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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FOREWORD

IT is a most difficult task to gather facts and figures covering a quarter of a century and put them in attractive and readable form. No one feels more keenly than the writer the shortcomings of this volume. Massachusetts and Rhode Island have played an important part in the making of this nation. In no less degree has the work of the Young Men's Christian Association been fostered and sustained by these two States. The Young Men's Christian Association in the United States had its genesis in Boston. The organized Boys' Work of the Association had its birth in Salem. The first authorized State Boys' Conference of the Association was held in Everett. The first and only State Committee building in the world is in Boston. The State Boys' Endowment Fund, the charging of registration fees and for banquet tickets at State Boys' Conferences all had their origin in the two States. The first Boys' Department in a Sunday School was organized by the Holyoke Association. In many other ways the Associations of the two States have contributed much in making Boys' Work efficient and worthy of support.

You can measure a rose but not its perfume, you can measure a stove but not its heat, you can measure a man but not his personality or influence. In like manner you can tabulate the statistics but you cannot measure the influence of the Association, its work and its workers upon the lives of boys and men. No printed page will ever reveal the motive power for righteousness set in motion, the lives saved from the ravages of sin and the forces set free for service in the church, the school, the community and the nation by the Young Men's Christian Association Boys' Division of the two States. This is something which the eternal record alone will reveal.

This book is therefore sent forth with a profound prayer of thanksgiving for the past and with the earnest desire that the past may stimulate to greater efforts in bringing boys to Jesus Christ and enlisting them in His service.

Boston, February 9, 1915.

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THE BOY

IS THE

PLATO said: "Of all beasts the most untamable is the boy." Carlyle added that "the only way to bring up a boy is to put him in a barrel and feed him through the bung hole." Jesus Christ when he wanted a standard of membership in his New Kingdom selected a child and said "of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." The key to the future is the boy of today. This citizen of tomorrow is now in process of forming his ideals and shaping his future. Whether he will become a political gangster, a social parasite, an unscrupulous business man, a moral degenerate, or become an honest politician, a

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social asset, a commercial worker that needeth not to be ashamed, or a moral force in the community and State is now being determined. The political, social, commercial and moral destiny of Massachusetts and Rhode Island is in the hands of the boys of today.

An English boy, sixteen years of age, one Sunday evening in the winter of 1837, while sitting alone in a back seat in the little Congregational Chapel in Bridgewater, England, began to reason out the tremendous importance of the spiritual life. Returning home he knelt down in the shop where he worked and gave his heart to God. He was admitted to the Church membership February 14, 1838. From that moment the motto of his life was "It is not how little but how much can I do for others." This youth was George Williams, the founder of the Young Men's Christian Association. At nineteen years of age he left Bridgewater and went into the employ of Hitchcock and Rogers, London. It was because of the awful temptations he saw gripping young men that he called together a few of his fellow clerks in his bedroom to talk over conditions and engage in prayer. The historic date was June 6, 1844. Twelve young men were present in that little "upper room." The name adopted on that date — The Young Men's Christian Association — has never changed and will so remain as long as the religion of Jesus Christ is the dominant religion of the world.

George Williams when a Youth

To trace the history of the Association would require more space than can be given in this chapter. It is not often given to one man the privilege of seeing good multiplied to the extent given to George Williams. From a group of twelve young men he saw the organization grow in

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fifty years to over five thousand branches in all parts of the world with a membership of half a million. Queen Victoria knighted him June, 1894. He passed away November 6, 1905. His burial on November 14, 1905, in St. Paul's Cathedral was the rightful honor paid to one of God's noblest citizens.

Seven years after the little group of twelve young men founded the Association in London, quite independently of one another, two groups of young men came together in North America — one in Montreal and the other in Boston — and organized Young Men's Christian Associations. The one in Montreal was organized November 25, 1851, and the other in Boston on December 29, 1851.

From the history of the Jubilee Convention held in Boston, June 11-16, 1901, is gleaned the following: "Although at the beginning of the Association's history in America the purpose of the organization was work for young men, the Association soon engaged in general evangelistic and philanthropic enterprises. In the early sixties considerable attention was given to mission schools for children, Sabbath schools, boys' meetings, newsboys' homes, ragged schools, juvenile temperance societies, etc. At the eleventh international convention in Albany, in 1866, however, there was a strong sentiment in favor of swinging back to the distinctive work for young men. From that time the number of outside enterprises conducted for boys by the Association rapidly decreased but, on the other hand, Associations encouraged the attendance of boys in their rooms. The International Convention in 1869 decided that the effect of admitting boys had been good for the boys but had not been good for the Association. The tendency from this time was to deal with boys in separate departments rather than to mix them indiscriminately with men. The first separate Boys' Department was organized at Salem, Mass., in 1869*. The decade from 1870 to 1880 records the steady increase of religious meetings for 'boys' and 'youths.' The decade from 1880 to 1890 is characterized by the broadening out of the purpose in boys' work, for, in addition to the spiritual,

* See account on page 13.

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the social, educational and physical needs of the boy were considered. As the work of prevention and training increased, the distinctly rescue and mission features decreased and the constituency gradually changed from street boys to school boys of better homes. The first salaried Boys' Secretary was employed in Buffalo in 1885. [It is significant that this "Boys' Secretary" was a woman, Miss Ella Brown, whose thorough work among the boys is evidenced today in the lives of hundreds of men who caught the spirit of service from this remarkable woman. Two other Secretaries, A. B. Ross, Boys' Branch, Brooklyn, and W. H. Wells, Junior Department, Central Branch, Philadelphia, were engaged that same year.— Editor.] In the decade from 1890 to 1900, the system of careful tabulation of the reports of Association boys' work was undertaken by the International Committee. * * * This decade is characterized by the rapidly growing popularity and consequent extensive and intensive development of the department. In some cities departments began to be in many respects like Junior Associations. Separate rooms, separate entrances, special equipment, special supervision and special activities multiplied rapidly. At the West Side Branch, New York, in 1897, complete and separate accommodations for boys were arranged for and connected with the main building. The need of closer supervision for this rapidly developing work became more and more evident and the demands upon the International Committee more urgent and insistent. It was not, however, until June, 1900, that the International Committee was able to employ a special Secretary, E. M. Robinson, for the general supervision of the work."

The period from 1900 to 1915 reads like a romance. Under the leadership of Mr. Robinson, work *for* boys evolved into work *with* boys. Adolescence and adolescents have been seriously studied, the work graded so that every type of boy from twelve to eighteen years of age is considered and cared for, and boys' work co-ordinated into the general scheme of work for men instead of considered as an outside department bearing only a preparatory relation to the Association. Not only were separate rooms

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Boys' Work Secretaries from the two States at Culver Assembly, May 17-30, 1913

Upper row, left to right: Withee, Frame, Barnes, Clee, Sumner,* Mann. Center row: E. R. Potter, J. N. Potter, Williams, Kessler, Piper, Mulvihill,. Lower row: Garran, Starquist, Winslow, Gibson, Smith, Gates.

*Deceased.

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provided, but also separate buildings and in some cities a system of separate buildings for boys. The work has been standardized and a nomenclature developed and efficient leadership emphasized.

The First General Assembly of Association Workers with Boys, held at Culver, Ind., May 17-30, 1913, sounded a new note in work among boys. About three hundred men from forty-four states and twelve foreign countries attended this epoch-making gathering. A number of commissions presented the report of their findings and made recommendations.

Leadership is now considered more important than equipment. The emphasis will be increasingly placed during the coming decade upon personality, and the community type of work has already demonstrated the possibilities of the investment in trained leadership.

A COMPARATIVE TABLE OF GROWTH IN THE UNITED STATES

	1889	1899	1909	1914
Associations	1,341	1,439	1,939	2,775
Boys' Departments	178	344	622	910
Boys' Members	no record	23,405	120,000	131,347
Boys' Work Directors	3	31	167	309
Assistant Boys' Work Directors	0	0	31	114
Boys' Physical Directors	0	0	3	28
International Boys' Secretaries	0	0	7	6
State Boys' Secretaries	0	0	8	22
Associations conducting Bible Classes	81	136	386	699
Bible Classes	0	0	1,402	3,501
Associations having Gymnasiums	122	309	530	665
Associations having Boys' Work Com.	0	228	354	406
Boys' Camps	0	107	282	337
Attendance at Boys' Camps	0	2,109	12,000	14,934

If the boys' work had a creed it would probably be the following: We believe that it is fairer to train a boy to do right than to restrain him from doing wrong; easier to cultivate good habits than to remove bad ones; cheaper to prevent the crime than cure the criminal; business-like to form character instead of trying to reform it; and better to win a boy to the Christian life when he is in the formative period than to wait until he is hardened.

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CHAPTER TWO

WILLIAM HORACE WHIPPLE

1833-1909

Originator and Founder of the Boys' Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association

As a labor of love the best years of his life were devoted to this work which, beginning in Salem, in 1869, has spread throughout the world.

So reads the inscription on the magnificent dressed stone fireplace erected in the social room of the Boys' Department at Salem to the memory of the founder of the local branch, originator of Boys' Work, now coming to be recognized as the most important phase of the Young Men's Christian Association movement throughout the world.

Mr. Whipple was essentially a Salemite — Salem born, educated in Salem schools, working in a Salem bank, and later with Salem boys, until his long life ended at the house in Salem which had been his life-long home. Yet he was in no sense provincial; his love and understanding of boys had a universality characteristic of the world scope of the Association.

For some years previous to 1869 Mr. Whipple's attention had been drawn toward the field of boys' work, and occasional meetings were held, similar in character to those which later characterized the Boys' Branch. From these meetings developed the organization which in the spring of 1869 consisted chiefly of the members of two Sunday School classes, one of which was taught by Mr. Whipple.

This branch had its constitution, meetings, officers and committees and conducted its affairs in a manner similar to that in which the sons of those boys have conducted the Department down to the present day. The constitu-

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tion says: "The object of this society shall be the spiritual, mental and social improvement of boys." Gymnasium classes were unknown even for men at this early day.

On the question of membership the constitution states: "Any boy of good moral character over ten years of age may become a member by signing the constitution and paying annually the fee of twenty-five cents after being approved by the Membership Committee of the Branch." About two hundred boys were members.

"One important idea we try to impress very strongly on all our members, and that is, that each one should join not *alone* for the enjoyment he may receive himself, but *for the sake of helping other boys.*" The popular Association motto, "Help the Other Fellow," was born in Salem. Committees were appointed to call on boys who were ill, to do errands, sort of the Scout's daily good turn.

The Department was self-supporting and also turned into the Association's treasury about one hundred and fifty dollars a year.

The first activities consisted of a weekly meeting for devotion and the transaction of business, calling the roll, a talk or reading from a book by Mr. Whipple to the members present. Soon a Saturday social afternoon developed, with games and puzzles. Outing club, walking club, committee teas, stamp club, cycle club, are recorded with their programs.

The gymnasium classes began about 1880, as programs are on file, lettered and illustrated by Mr. Whipple, of exhibitions during the early eighties. Here, too, the organization of classes was preceded by occasional ventures into the realm of light gymnastics.

The character of the weekly meetings of the Branch, held on Tuesday evenings, is exemplified by the following comments on the scripture lesson, written in Mr. Whipple's hand:

"Matthew 7, 21st verse to end of chapter.

"It is not so much what we *say* but what we *do*, which shows to those around us that we are trying to be Christian boys. It is the life we live rather than the professions we make which tell for good. The thought of the

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passage we have read is, that we should not only *hear* what God has for us in His work, but also *do* as He says and then we are like the wise man who built a stone foundation for his house, which the wind or storm could not overthrow."

Again: "Matthew 10th, 37th verse through chapter. It is not always the great things which we might do for the

Program made with pen and ink, by Mr. William H. Whipple

Master, which are the most important, but often the little things which come to us in everyday life that speak loudest, and even the giving of a cup of cold water which costs us so little, if we do it because we want to help some one to be happier, that is the thing which pleases the Savior. Let us try not to think so much of ourselves, but of those around us; then we shall be truly happy."

"Seventy-six boys present. President Thompson in the chair. After the roll call Mr. Whipple conducted the devotional exercises and after a number of notices had been given, commenced a new book called 'The Little Rebel.' Meeting adjourned."

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Memorial to William Horace Whipple in Salem Boys' Division

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"Mr. Whipple led the devotional exercises and gave notices. Business Meeting. President Upton in the chair, the roll was called and records read and then Dr. Atwood gave his 'Emergency Talk.' It was very interesting. Among other things he mentioned what to do in case of bleeding, burning, poisoning, drowning, and breaking any of the limbs, which interested the boys very much. Number present, 114—meeting adjourned.

". . . But what was most remarkable was the presence of two gentlemen who, in their boyhood, nearly twenty-four years ago, were members of the local organization, and with them were their sons who are now members of the local organization, and with them were their sons who are now members of the branch." (1893.)

Quoting from Mr. Whipple's paper at the first Conference of Massachusetts and Rhode Island boys held in Everett, Jan. 28, 1891, it will be seen that this first Boys' Department was built upon a definite religious basis. "Between two and three hundred of our members are now, or have been, members of the Association and over one hundred are now in the Salem churches! This number of church members could, without doubt, be largely increased could we hear from the many hundreds who are now scattered all over the country. We do not say they were all converted while with us, but we do say that impressions were received which resulted, in many cases, in a decision to come out on the Lord's side, and some have stated when uniting with the church that impressions received in our little meetings led them to take the step.

"Some time ago a plan was tried which was a great help to the boys, of inviting those who were Christians and those especially interested, to the leader's house or to the homes of the boys, where familiar talks would be had on what the Christian life is, letting them tell of their home life and, if they would, lead in prayer which in a little company of their own boy friends is so much easier than in a large meeting."

Of the boys who were members during the earlier years, Mr. Whipple, speaking at the quarter centenary of the Salem Boys' Work, said: "Boys who were members years

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ago are now, some of them, doctors; others are scattered over the face of the globe; others have adopted the ministry and law and one of the original members is a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy. Four original members are now secretaries of the Young Men's Christian Association. Seven boys who are members now are sons of men who belonged to the Boys' Branch twenty years ago."

Mr. Whipple kept careful records of all the activities of the Boys' Department. The names of all the boys who joined the Department, of which there were over two thousand during the thirty-five years of his active service, are preserved. Many of the programs he made with pen and ink.

From a letter which the writer received from Mr. Whipple's closest friend and co-worker, Edwin N. Peabody of Salem, is quoted the following paragraph, taken from notebooks of Mr. Whipple now in Mr. Peabody's possession.

FROM AN OLD MONTHLY BULLETIN, OCTOBER, 1891.

Some things we should like to see go.

1. Every good undertaking to success.
2. Every evil plan to failure.
3. A young man's character to manly strength.
4. Our Y. M. C. A. mortgage on the road to annihilation.

Let's give a push all around.

"How is it? We study solar eclipses through a smoked glass, but a (smoking) Christian is a poor medium through which to study the Son of Righteousness.

"You can do something. Every temptation that is resisted, every noble aspiration that is encouraged, every sinful thought that is repressed, every bitter word that is withheld adds its little item to the impetus of that great movement that is bearing humanity onwards towards a richer life and a higher character.

"Never trust to prayer without using all the means in your power, and never use the means without trusting in prayer."

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The following brief biographical notice appeared in the *Congregationalist*, February, 1909.

Mr. William H. Whipple at thirty-five years of age

"William H. Whipple of Salem, Mass., a faithful layman of the Tabernacle Congregational Church of that city, died on February 11, 1909. Quiet and unobtrusive as he was, it is yet true that few lives have exerted greater influence for good than his."

"Educated in the Salem schools he entered early upon a business life and filled positions of responsibility for some thirty years. After this, for reasons of health, he withdrew

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from the active life of business and began at once to devote himself to the work which lay next his heart. What had been up to this time his avocation now became his vocation and the result was the first Boys' Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association in the world. While he approved and encouraged all the modern appliances and attractions which tend to draw boys to the Association,

A later photograph of William H. Whipple, Salem, Mass.

his peculiar power lay in his personal influence — a power that he never failed to use, nor to create opportunities for using. From one end of the country to the other there are men today who at the mention of Salem will say, "I used to be one of Mr. Whipple's boys." In these days when so much is attempted through organization, it is refreshing to turn to a life where the personal touch was

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counted the great instrument to be used in the service of the Master.

"After thirty years of untiring effort in this work so dear to him, Mr. Whipple was obliged, on account of serious illness, to give up all active life. No greater testimony to his sincere faith could be given than that of the last eight years of patient, uncomplaining invalidism. A great lover of his own home, tenderly cared for by the sister who shared his hearthstone, he died in the home where he was born, in his seventy-sixth year.

"And he wist not that his face shone."

When the announcement of Mr. Whipple's death was made to the 330 delegates who attended the State Boys' Conference held in Providence, February 19-21, 1909, the following resolutions were framed by a committee and adopted:

Whereas, In view of the loss we have sustained by the death of our friend and founder of the first organized Boys' Department in the world, William H. Whipple, and the still heavier loss sustained by those who were nearest and dearest to him; be it therefore

Resolved, That it is but a just tribute to the memory of the departed to say that in his removal from us we mourn for one that was in every way worthy of our respect and love.

Resolved, That we sincerely condole with the family and commend them to Him who orders all things for the best.

Resolved, That this heartfelt testimonial of sympathy and respect of the boys of Massachusetts and Rhode Island be forwarded to the relatives of our departed friend by the Secretary of this Conference.

(Signed) Malcolm W. Morse
Harold W. Blakely
Walter V. MacArthur
Edwin J. Fuller
Elliot Drury
Committee.

February 21, 1909.

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CHAPTER THREE

MEN WHO FATHERED BOYS' STATE WORK

FRANK B. RICHARDSON of Woburn, Mass., read a paper at the State Convention, held in Newburyport, Mass., October 20, 1894, upon the subject "A Man's View of the Junior Department," four years after the holding of the First Boys' Conference, which aroused enthusiasm and was the means of the State Executive Committee appointing a committee on boys' work. This paper was published in pamphlet form and widely distributed.

The committee, appointed in 1895, was known as the "Junior Department Committee" and A. B. McCRILLIS of Providence was the first chairman. In 1897, the name was changed to "Boys' Work Committee." Under the leadership of Mr. McCRILLIS, the work was organized upon a firm basis. He was chairman from 1895 to 1897, and then for one year L. B. BREEN of Lynn took his place. Again appointed chairman 1898-1899, and in 1901 - 1902, Mr. McCRILLIS served faithfully and well the boys of the two States.

A. B. McCrillis

Hon. FREDERICK FOSDICK of Fitchburg was chairman from 1899 to 1900. His interest in the boy has never abated, for at the present writing he is still a member of the State Committee and an ardent champion of the boy.

From 1900 to 1901, ARTHUR C. STONE of Chelsea served

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as chairman. He has continued a member of the committee and at the present time (1915) is one of the best workers in the interest of the boy. His liberal gifts made possible the erection of the Chelsea Association building, and his personal influence in winning boys to the Christian life is attested by scores of boys in his home city and elsewhere.

CHARLES F. BORDEN of Fall River was chairman in 1902 and 1903. His enthusiastic leadership made possible the placing of a State Boys' Secretary, giving full time, in the field. At the Thirteenth Boys' Conference held at Worcester, 1903, MR. BORDEN became impressed with the need of leadership and at once the machinery was set in motion to secure such a leader. He was ably seconded by LEWIS A. CROSSETT of North Abington, a member of the committee, who through his generous gifts made possible the calling of H. W. GIBSON of Lancaster, Pa., to that responsible position. MR. BORDEN'S interest in boys' work never dulled, even up to the time of his death.

During the year of 1903 to 1904, LEWIS A. CROSSETT was chairman, and his thorough belief in the possibilities of boys' work became contagious, until the State Committee considered this particular part of the work one of its most important undertakings. "A Friend of Boys," is MR. CROSSETT'S unofficial title—a title which he considers to be of greater honor than any other title conferred upon him. He served as chairman of the State Executive Committee from December 13, 1906 to January 14, 1914.

The present chairman, FRANCIS O. WINSLOW, Norwood, Mass., was appointed in 1904. Youthful in spirit, wise in counsel, and experience tempered, MR. WINSLOW has safely guided the development of the work to its present state of efficiency. He was elected a member of the State Executive Committee in 1874, and is therefore the senior member. Macaulay in his essays says, "The hearts of men are their books; events are their tutors; great actions are their eloquence." In such a school was MR. WINSLOW educated.

The Committee on Boys' Work (1915) is composed of MR. WINSLOW, chairman; WINTHROP M. CRANE, JR.,

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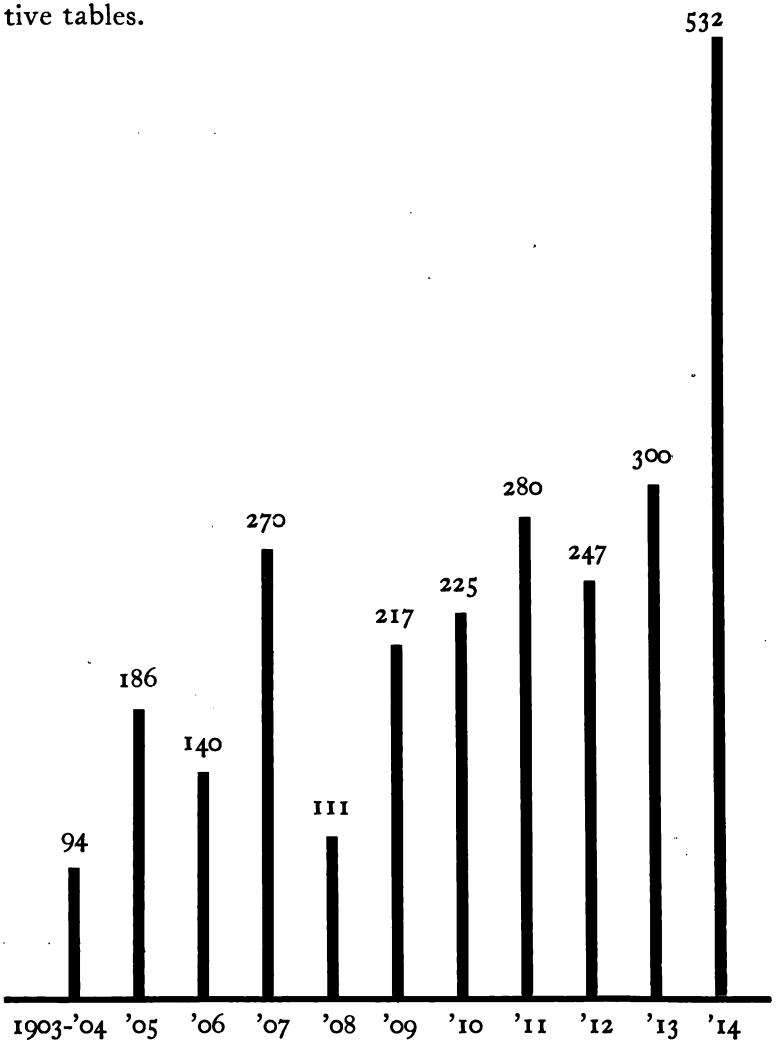
Dalton, Mass., Crane Company; FRANK B. TOWNE, Holyoke, National Blank Book Co.; LEWIS A. CROSSETT, Boston, Crossett Shoe Company; CARLTON L. ELLISON, Newton, R. L. Day & Co.; ARTHUR C. STONE, Chelsea, Ideal Lunch.

Under the direction of these active laymen and with the hearty co-operation of the Association the work among boys has made great advances, as shown by the comparative tables.



2602 BOYS UNITED WITH CHURCH

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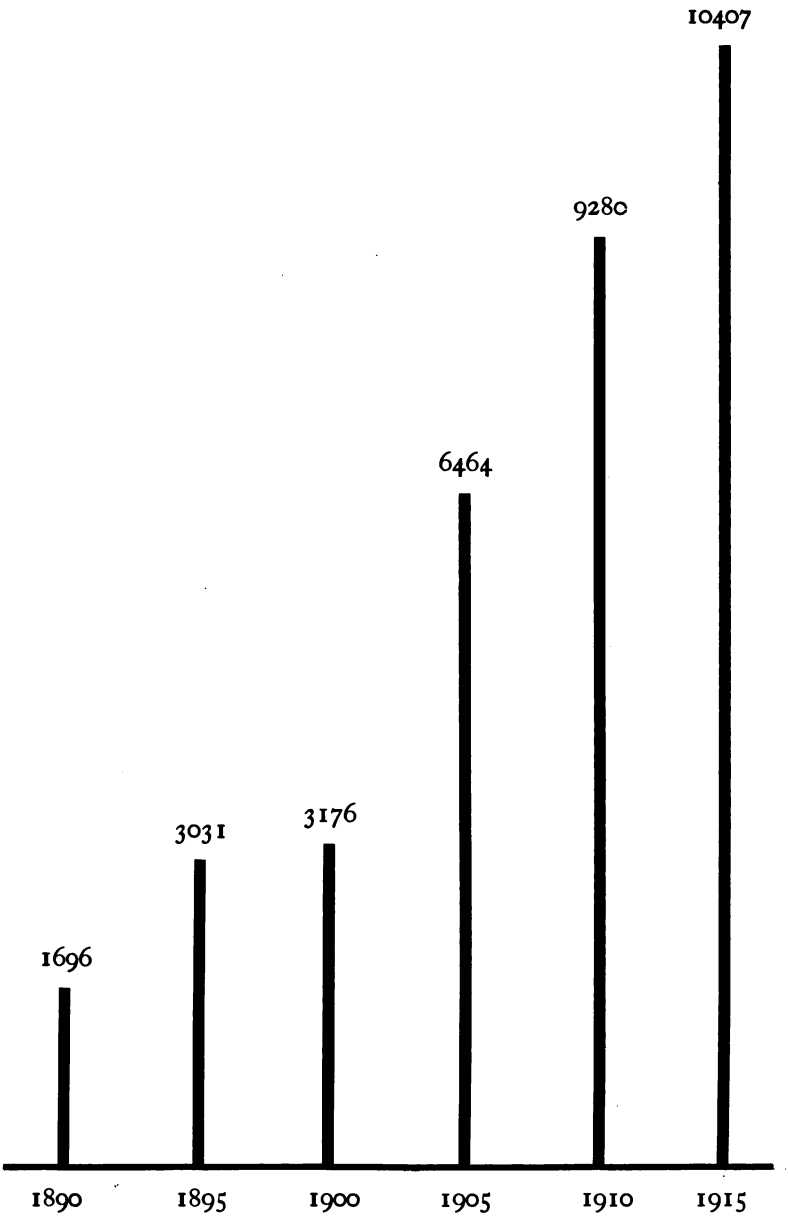

MEMBERSHIP OF BOYS' DIVISION

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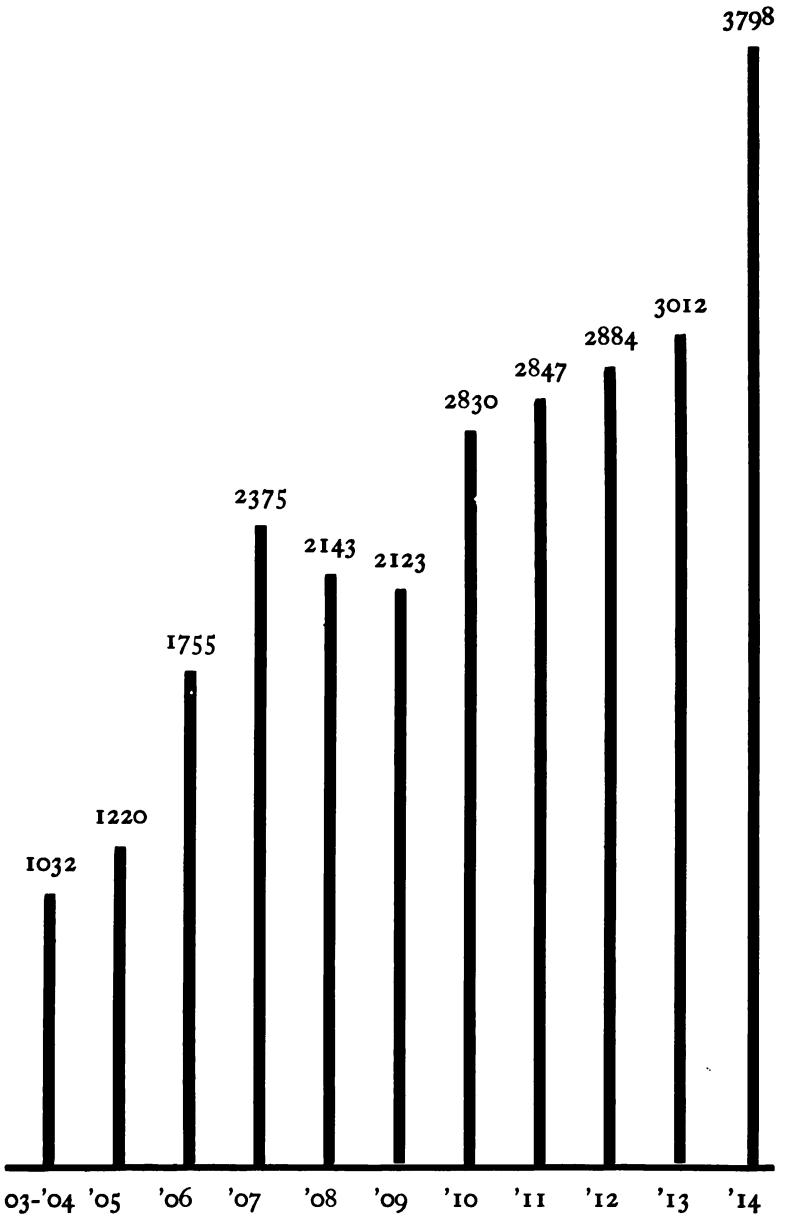

26024 BOYS IN BIBLE CLASSES

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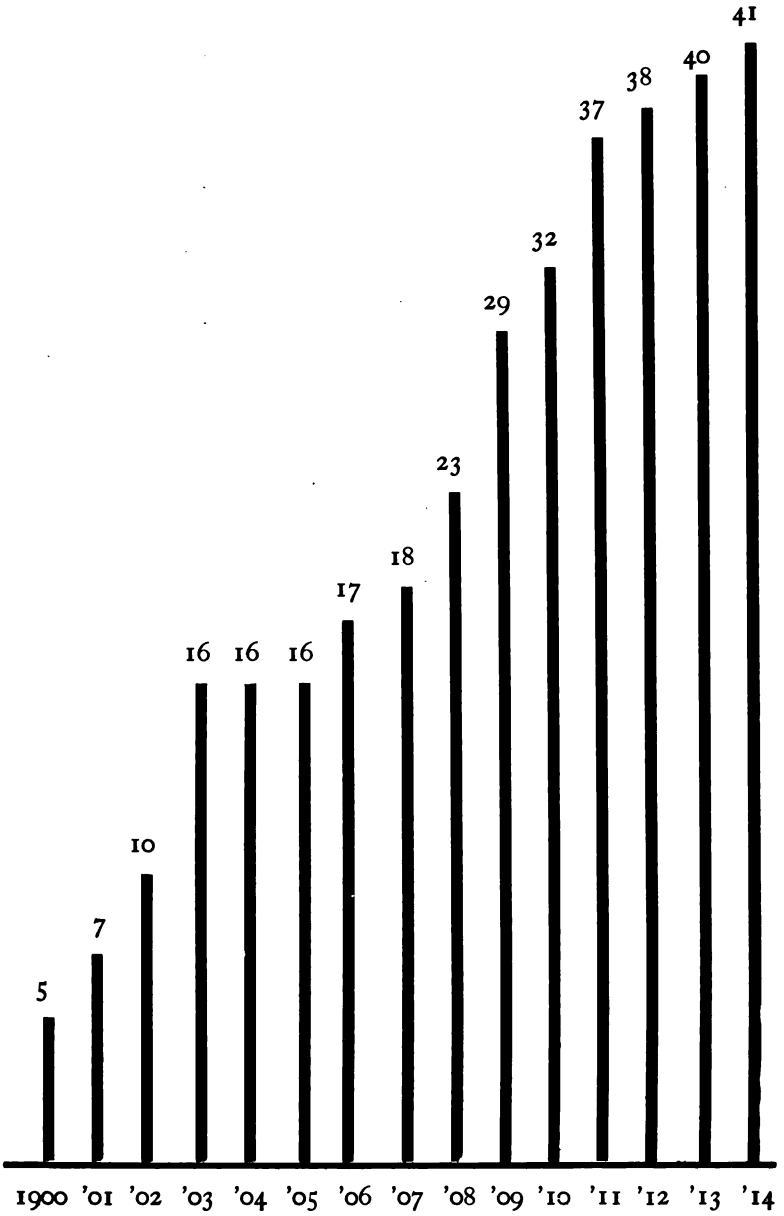

NUMBER OF BOYS' WORK SECRETARIES

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CHAPTER FOUR

THE STORY OF THE FIRST BOYS' CONFERENCE*

IT is said that every great moral movement which has stirred mankind, that every invention which has blessed humanity and most of the great wars that have devastated the world have been born in somebody's brain. Gibbons tells of how he was walking in the streets of Rome in 1764, when a vision came to him of the wonderful history which bears his name. In some such way as this, the idea of a Boys' Conference was born in the mind of the speaker, and consequently, in telling the story of the first Conference, it will be necessary to use the personal pronoun.

W. F. Moore

It was my privilege in the spring of 1888 to organize the Boys' Branch (as the junior work was called then) of the Everett Young Men's Christian Association. You fellows who were not in the world twenty years ago, and the General Secretaries who have come into the work during the last decade, have not the slightest realization what work for boys meant a score of years ago. Boys were considered unmitigated nuisances in a large majority of Associations, and they were not allowed in the building. Association

*This article was read by Mr. Moore at the Holyoke Conference in 1910.

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men thought that work for boys would spoil the work for young men. They did not know, as they came to learn soon afterward, that while it was easier to save a young man than a middle-aged man, it was far easier to save a boy than a young man.

Some time during the fall of 1889, the idea flashed upon me that it would be a great inspiration to have a meeting of the boys of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, as the Association men met in the annual convention. The idea took deep root in my mind, and the more I thought of it, the more I was thoroughly convinced that it would be a wonderful help not only to the boys in bringing the work before the public at large, but to the men of the Association themselves. But how to stir up the States, and bring this helpful thing to pass which did not exist, was a puzzling proposition. If I had not learned the lesson before, young men, I learned it then that when God wants any work done in the world, and He finds a man willing to do it, He will prepare the way. You fellows who have grown up since the advent of electric cars have the idea that electric cars always existed, but they did not. In like manner, you have been hearing about Annual Conferences ever since you have been in the Boys' Department, and you doubtless think such events have always been taking place, but this is not the truth.

Let me tell you how the initial steps were taken in bringing about the First Boys' Conference. In the fall of 1890, I met Secretary Armstrong in the office of a mutual friend. He asked me to prepare a paper to be read at a parlor conference of workers among boys in connection with the State Convention in Haverhill. The invitation was accepted and then came over me the thought, here was the time to test the idea which had been in my mind for more than a year. So I said, "Brother Armstrong, how would it strike you to have a Conference of boys, with papers by boys, and as far as possible run by boys, the same as we have for the men?" In reply he said, in a non-committal manner, "Why not bring up your idea at the Conference of workers for boys and if they think well of it, we will act upon it in the State Convention." With this for a starter I went

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home. My wife was chairman of the Boys' Branch Committee of the Woman's Auxiliary, the same as I was of the Association, and I asked her if a Conference for boys was decided upon would the Everett Auxiliary provide the refreshments for the day? She looked into the matter and reported that the ladies would be very glad to take up such a work. You will see that all these preparations were necessary to make the movement a success at the start.

At the appointed time, I went to Haverhill, read my paper at the Conference mentioned, and at the close brought up my scheme, again asking whether the members present would approve of having a Conference for boys, with papers by boys, and run by boys as far as possible, the same as the Convention for men. Mr. C. D. Monroe, of Southbridge, a well-known Association worker, who presided, and several others spoke in favor of it. When a vote was taken practically every man present voted to recommend such a proposition. The gentleman who was appointed to report the doings of the Conference to the State Convention next day was told to make a favorable report, and as he was receiving his instructions I said, "Be sure to say if they decide in favor of a Conference, that the Everett Association extends a hearty invitation that the first one of the Boys' Conferences be held in our town." Business requirements forced me to return to Boston next day, and I was unable to attend the Convention and be present when the vote was taken. Nobody opposed the proposition, however, and as Everett offered to provide a place, it was adopted, and this was the first action taken in bringing about the long series of wonderful meetings which have been held since.

In December, Secretary Armstrong was sick and unable to take upon himself the extra work of securing speakers and papers, but Assistant Secretary J. W. Cook did this work in a most excellent manner. The Everett Association had no General Secretary at this time and all inside preparatory work fell upon myself. Letters were sent to all the Associations, whether they had departments or not, and all were urged to state how many delegates were coming that the ladies might have some idea as to the number

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for whom to prepare. The Secretaries, either through carelessness or inability, failed in most cases to make any report or give us any idea as to the number expected, and our ladies were greatly at sea in their preparations. The day came finally and our members entered very heartily into the exercises. The delegates came on horse-cars and steam-cars and were met by committees and escorted to our building with considerable interest and pride. All the Everett boys were provided with little blue badges.

Our President was named Thomas Wood, a fine specimen of American boyhood. Some weeks before the eventful day, I called him to me and said, "Tom, it will be necessary for you to prepare a speech of welcome to the delegates and members of the Conference." He said, "Oh, I cannot do that, Mr. Moore," and I said, "Yes, you can, Tom," and he finally agreed that he would write something and submit it to me, when I remarked I would go over it merely to see that he omitted nothing which a President ought to say under the circumstances, and that the speech would be in every part his alone. After the opening exercises Tom stepped to the platform and with boyish enthusiasm welcomed the delegates and members to the first Conference for boys ever held in the history of the world. He said that Massachusetts led in 1775 and again in 1861, and then he thundered out, "Massachusetts leads, she never follows," and the fellows cheered the sentiment to the echo. As there were no precedents to follow, it was not deemed wise to throw the responsibility of the first Conference on any boy, no matter how bright he might be, and Mr. Cook was chosen President for the day. After starting the exercises he gave the Vice-President a liberal share in the honor of presiding.

There were some fine papers read that day, and everything passed off smoothly to the great credit of all who took part in the program. The only regret was the failure of an Everett photographer to get a good picture of the assemblage, but the plate became lighted in some way and was spoiled.

You will be interested, I know, in one little event which took place during the day as something to remember re-

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garding the First Boys' Conference. The ladies not knowing exactly how many to expect guessed at about 150. There were nearly 200 present, and when the dinner was two-thirds over, one of the ladies came running to Mrs. Moore and said that the bread was all gone, and asked what should they do. Mrs. Moore said calmly to take the large basket of rolls they had saved for supper; but the lady replied excitedly that, "The rolls are all gone, too." The delegates had eaten all the bread at one meal which had been planned for both dinner and supper. One of the members was rushed off to the only baker in the town and he got all the loaves and other bread he could, and the dinner was completed. In the afternoon the ladies sent to Chelsea and secured bread for supper. Every delegate and General Secretary brought his appetite with him that day.

It has been my privilege to tell you the story of the First Boys' Conference; let me give you a thought in closing regarding the future. The men who fought at Lexington and Bunker Hill, it is safe to say, had little realization what the full import of their actions would be as regards the future. In some such manner, we did our work twenty years ago. We knew it would be a great thing for the boys to mingle in the capacity of an organized Conference and to widen their experiences, but we did not realize that it would ever expand into the wonderful Conference held in Holyoke in 1910.

As the young men not much older than you fellows, in 1775 and again in 1861, had to face serious problems regarding the welfare of the Nation, so you fellows in less than twenty, it may be in less than ten years, will have to face more serious problems than either of the two sets of young men mentioned. The millions who are coming to us from foreign shores bringing with them many perplexing questions, the putting down of the rum traffic (a war which has been going on for scores of years), and many similar things will have to be settled by such fellows as I am facing today. As grace was given to others to meet their questions faithfully and conquer them, may God give you the grace never to flinch from the right, but to look to the source

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from which all strength cometh, and to go steadily on working for everything which is pure and true.

The boys who have preceded you and the men who have been associated with them have built well. Now on the foundation which has been started, it is your duty to erect a spiritual building which shall form a part of God's great temple in the end. Get the idea of your individual responsibility for the work, and you will never fail to keep in touch with the great movements for the benefit of mankind.

Rise, for the day is passing,
While you lie dreaming on
Others have buckled their armor
And forth to the fight have gone.

A place in the ranks awaits you,
Each man has some part to play.
The past and the future are nothing
In the face of the stern today.

Work while the daylight lasteth,
Ere the shadows of night come on,
Ere the Lord of the vineyard cometh
And the laborer's work is done.

Watch not the clouds above thee,
Let the wild winds around thee sweep,
God the seedtime may give thee,
Tho' another's hand may reap.

The first President of the first Boys' Conference in Everett, January 28, 1891, was John W. Cook, at that time the Assistant State Secretary of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. He served the Armory Hill Association in Springfield as its General Secretary from June 15, 1887, to June 15, 1889, when he took up his new work as Assistant State Secretary, an office which he held until May 15, 1892. After serving as Secretary in Bridgeport, and State Secretary of New York, he became the successor of the late Edwin F. See, as General Secretary of the Brooklyn Association, where he is at the present time.

John W. Cook

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CHAPTER FIVE

HISTORY OF BOYS' STATE CONFERENCES

A COMPLETE history of the First Conference held in Everett, January 28, 1891, is given in another chapter by William F. Moore, who was instrumental in calling the Conference. Mr. John W. Cook, in taking the President's chair at this Conference said: "This unexpected honor I esteem as one of the greatest which has ever come to me, and I accept it with gratitude to our Heavenly Father and to you. By its bestowal I feel assured of your support and prayers. Before me are those who will soon be our pastors, general secretaries, missionaries and business men. We expect that this gathering will make better boys of you, increase your love for holy things, and greatly increase your efficiency for work in your several departments, and, in a measure, fit you for your life work."

In the preliminary "Greeting" sent out by the pastors of the Everett churches, it is interesting to note their definition of the boys' work of the Association, in the following sentences: "Believing that the Young Men's Christian Association is a strong ally of the church, and is doing church work in winning men from the error of their ways, we have special interest in what might be termed the Sunday School of the Association." This letter was signed by Revs. E. T. Pitts, Congregational Church; George B. Titus, Baptist Church; T. D. Martin, Episcopal Church and Charles Young, Methodist Church.

Twenty-four Associations sent one hundred and thirty-three boys and fifty-nine men to the Conference. The Chairman of the State Committee, Russell Sturgis, was present and State Secretary R. M. Armstrong. While the Conference was only for one day, the program was carefully and definitely planned from ten A.M. to eight-forty-five P.M. R. C. Goodwin, now the General Secretary at San Francisco,

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but then the General Secretary at Natick, conducted the opening devotional exercises. Mr. Goodwin left the work for some years and engaged in business. During most of that period he was a member of the State Executive Committee, and served until he re-entered the Association work in 1908. W. H. Whipple, the founder of boys' work, gave many interesting reminiscences of "Junior Work." Rev. Nehemiah Boynton, who was at that time a Congregational pastor in Boston, gave the closing address upon the subject "Get out of the Way." It had the ring of manliness in it that has always characterized Dr. Boynton's messages. He spoke of three things a boy should get out of the way of: bad companionship, bad habits, bad thoughts.

Among the resolutions passed was one recommending the "Organizing of Union Junior Summer Encampments throughout the State during the coming season of 1891."

In looking over the list of delegates we find the name of Hervey L. Smith, who read a report of the work in his home town of Attleboro. Mr. Smith became one of the leading Boys' Secretaries in this country, and upon his passing away, was brought to Attleboro for burial in the old home cemetery. Arthur N. Cotton, A. H. Whitford, George E. Day, W. E. Lougee and T. T. Hazlewood were also present. A. H. Whitford so eloquently presented the claims of State Work that $50 was received.

The Second Conference was held in Hyde Park Friday, January 29, 1892. Such topics as "Some Ways of Winning, Holding and Developing Boys for Association Work," "The Work of the Junior Department Reception Committee," "Junior Rooms," "Gospel Meetings," "Bible and Bible Training Classes," "Systematic Giving — Why and How," were discussed. The principal address was given by Rev. J. E. Tuttle, of Jamaica Plain, now a pastor of a Presbyterian Church, in York, Pa. F. W. Robinson, then General Secretary of the Charlestown Association, now Employment Secretary of the Boston Association, and A. T. Stratton, General Secretary of the Pawtucket Association, now at Charleston, S. C., took part in the program. Sumner F. Dudley of New York, the father of

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the boys' work in New Jersey and New York, and founder of Camp Dudley, gave an address and conducted a prayer service which resulted in five boys expressing a desire to lead a Christian life.

Among the delegates was Frank Broughton, who since September, 1891, has been the Secretary of the Marblehead Association. A musical feature of the Conference was the singing of the Humming Bird Quartette of Boston, composed of boys possessing remarkable voices.

The Third Conference was a two-day gathering held in Worcester, January 21 and 22, 1893. It was at this Conference that the State Committee on Junior Department Work was announced, and consisted of A. B. McCrillis, Providence; James Logan, Worcester, and George M. Wells, Southbridge. Two hundred and ninety-two delegates were in attendance. The program was much more pretentious and many important subjects were discussed. James Logan, still an active State Committeeman, presided over the Saturday afternoon session, when the Departments made their reports, and later gave an address on "Systematic Giving." An appeal was made by Assistant State Secretary W. G. Lotze for gifts to an endowment fund to be invested in a State Building. Quoting from the report, he said: "At present but two Secretaries are employed. At least three more are needed, one of whom should devote all his time to the Junior Department Work. Consult your parents and secure their sympathy and co-operation."

Carlton L. Ellison

Among the boys who reported for their Departments

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were: Laurence Freeborne of Newport; Claude E. Patch of Stoneham and Carl Ellison of Newton. The first named entered the Physical Directorship and is now serving the New Bedford Association, the second is the leader of boys' work in his church and also a leader at Camp Durrell, and the third was promoted from membership in the Junior Department at Newton to Chairmanship of the Boys' Work Committee, and from there to the Board of Directors. He was later made Vice-President and on Wednesday, January 13, 1915, elected a member of the State Executive Committee, serving on the Boys' Work Committee. Few men have such a record of faithfulness and loyalty to the work of the Association as Mr. Ellison.

Among the Secretaries present who are now engaged in Association work in the two States were: George H. Peabody, Frank Broughton, George E. Day and Physical Director E. W. Wilder.

Addresses were given at the Sunday afternoon meeting by Rev. J. D. Pickle, E. P. Chapman and Rev. I. J. Lansing. Forty-seven boys accepted Christ at this meeting. The pastor of the Piedmont Church, Rev. D. O. Mears, D.D., gave the address at the closing service held Sunday evening. His subject was "The Power of Consecrated Boyhood." A farewell service followed, the delegates formed a circle around the church, joined hands and sang "Blest Be the Tie that Binds."

The Fourth Conference was held in two sections, one meeting in Springfield and the other in Woburn. They were held on the same dates, Friday and Saturday, January 26, 27, 1894, and similar topics discussed in each section. This type of a Conference was evidently held because of a desire to secure a large attendance with minimum expense of travel. Among the visitors to the Springfield Conference were: Sumner F. Dudley, New York; John W. Cook, Bridgeport, and H. B. Wentworth of Orange, N. J. E. T. Bates, then the General Secretary at Holyoke, and now the State Secretary of Connecticut, conducted one of the Praise Services, and Dr. F. N. Seerley of Springfield addressed the Conference upon the subject "How May Boys Be Led to Live Pure Lives?" W. H. Davis, from Greenfield, and

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now General Secretary at Waterbury, Conn., led the opening service of prayer and songs.

Evidently Basket Ball was introduced for the first time at this Conference, for the program announced a game at four-thirty, Friday afternoon, between Springfield and Holyoke, which was won by Springfield by a score of thirteen to three. The Mizpah Service was in charge of E. N. Huntress, Westfield, now General Secretary at Pittsfield. An interesting feature was the exchange of telegraphic greetings between the two gatherings.

The Woburn Conference was addressed by Rev. George A. Hood and Evangelist John M. Dick, Boston. Carleton L. Ellison, Newton, read a paper on "Bible Study in the Department." Instead of the Basket Ball game, there was a Gymnastic Drill by the boys of the Cambridge Department. "What May be Regarded as Settled Principles in Boys' Work," was the subject discussed in both sections, and the following abstracts are interesting: "The object of the department is to lead boys into a higher life, therefore, the Gospel meeting and the Bible class should be the mainspring of the whole movement. The work should be for boys over eleven years of age, and this limit should be strictly adhered to in Gospel meetings. Younger boys do not need the Association. A special room for boys' work is essential to the highest success. The room should be easy of access, well ventilated and lighted, and well furnished. The work should be for boys, by boys, under the supervision of a man who knows and loves them." In discussing "What Makes the Ideal Summer Camp," it was decided that "the camp should have a good Christian leader as superintendent. He should be a spiritual man and one who loves boys; he should have good assistants, at least one man for eight boys. A good cook is absolutely necessary. An old man is preferable as he will not neglect his duties to enter into the boyish sports. Without good discipline, a boys' camp is a failure. Winning boys for Christ should be the supreme end of the camp."

Among the delegates who attended the Woburn Conference was C. A. Jenney of Brockton. Mr. Jenney became a Director in the Brockton Association, later was

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elected President and at present writing is the Chairman of the Boys' Work Committee. He has been the efficient Director of the State Camp Durrell for a number of seasons, reluctantly resigning at the close of the season of 1914.

Evidently the Two-Section Conference in 1894 was so successful that the plan was again used at the Fifth Conference, held simultaneously in Holyoke and Chelsea, January 18 and 19, 1895. "Juniorettes" in *Two States* for February, 1895, says: "Pretty lively were the streets of Holyoke and Chelsea for two days at least, with nearly four hundred bright boys." "Boy presidents are not a whit behind men presidents in efficiency." From this account we are given to understand that this dual Conference set the standard of having boys as presidents, and the record gives the name of Walter Dyer, Springfield, as president of the Holyoke Section and Robert Bakeman as president of the Chelsea section.

The speakers at the Holyoke Section were Rev. Roland Cotton Smith, Northampton, and E. W. Booth, then General Secretary at Albany, N. Y. At the Chelsea Section addresses were given by Revs. C. L. Merriam, Lowell, and A. A. Bronsden, Revere. Summer camps seemed to be the absorbing theme of interest, for a period was given on the program for three-minute papers on "The Best Things in Our Summer Camps."

R. E. Lewis, now the General Secretary at Cleveland, Ohio, was the College State Secretary of the two States during this year. The State Committee published a pamphlet on "The Man's View of the Junior Department," by Frank L. Richardson, which found ready sale at three cents a copy.

The Sixth Conference was held in two sections of the State at Chicopee and Watertown, Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28, 1896. The program subjects were similar in each section. The addresses at Chicopee were given by Rev. Frank L. Goodspeed, Springfield; Rev. C. K. Flanders, Chicopee, and Dr. A. T. Halstead, Springfield, and at Watertown by Rev. R. L. Greene, Somerville; George A. Peabody, Waltham, and Frank Murray, St. Stephen, N. B. Among the boys who read papers at the

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Watertown section was a short-trousered boy by the name of Charley Gilkey, from Watertown. His subject was "How Can We, as Christian Boys, Best Fight the Evils of Boyhood?" He was elected president of the Conference. He is now Rev. Charles W. Gilkey, pastor of Hyde Park Baptist Church, Chicago.

From a letter received from "Charley Gilkey," on February 3, 1915, we print the following:

"Personally, I owe very much both of inspiration and training for Christian service to my boyhood experience in the Watertown Association, and the realization of that debt as it deepens with every passing year increases my sense of gratitude. I remember vividly as if it were yesterday the place, hour, and address in the Watertown Conference of 1896, when the thought of giving my life to Christian service first flashed upon me. During the years since, many elements have combined to influence and reinforce that decision; but I shall always look back to that hour as its beginning; nor can I forget that my first personal taste of the joy of Christian service came through boys' work during the succeeding four or five years in our own Watertown Association and those of surrounding towns and cities. I am most happy, therefore, to co-operate in your undertaking and shall want to have a copy when it is finished. I am sending under separate cover a recent photograph, which, while not very good, is the best I have."

Rev. Charles W. Gilkey

As for biographical data, the following may serve:

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"Graduating from the Watertown High School in 1899, I entered Harvard and graduated there in 1903, with the degrees of A.B. and A.M. For the next three years, two years' full time and one year part time, I served the Student Department of the International Committee as a traveling Secretary, first among the preparatory schools and later among the colleges of Canada and the East. I entered Union Theological Seminary in New York City in 1905, and graduated in 1908, with the degree of B.D., being then awarded the graduate fellowship of the Seminary for two years' study abroad. I spent the first year at Berlin and Marburg in Germany, and the second at Glasgow, Edinburgh and Oxford in Great Britain. Returning to this country in 1910, I was called to the pastorate of this church, where I have been ever since."

It was at this Conference when E. M. Robinson, St. Stephen, N. B., and two friends, got their first view of the boys of the two States and Mr. Robinson's loyalty to the boys of the "Bay State and Little Rhody" since then has always remained true.

A report says: "A Boys' Union Camp will be a reality this summer. The location has not yet been definitely chosen, but will be within twenty miles of Boston."

The Seventh Conference was a united gathering, held in Wollaston, Friday and Saturday, March 19 and 20, 1897. Evidently the "young boy" delegate became an issue, for the report says: "There is serious question if a boy under fourteen, unless he is unusually bright and mature, is old enough to be made a delegate to these Conferences." "There was a marked absence of the 'Kid element'; most of the delegates were manly, earnest, and entirely gentlemanly. The advance in quality over previous years was noticeable." This Conference marked the beginning of the "older boy" standard of delegate. The topics discussed were more varied and very practical. Pitt F. Parker, who was then the Secretary of the Newton Association, gave a Chalk Talk at the opening session. Mr. Parker later gave up Association work to enter the wider field of the lecture platform.

The delegates got up early Saturday morning, eight-

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fifteen, and visited the birthplace of John Adams, where an address of welcome was given by Mayor Charles F. Adams, 2d.

Rev. Tillman B. Johnson of Lynn, Rev. Charles L. Morgan of Jamaica Plain, and E. M. Robinson gave the addresses of the Conference.

A record is made in *Two States* of Sumner F. Dudley's death in April, 1897. Mr. Dudley, formerly of Worcester, was a visitor to these Annual Conferences and had won many boys to the Christian life through his personal efforts.

The Eighth Conference was held at Hyde Park, May 13 and 14, 1898. The Spanish-American war was on, and the time of the Association Secretaries given largely to the work of the Army Christian Commission. Notwithstanding this disturbed condition, thirty-four Associations sent nearly two hundred boys to the Conference. The speakers were Rev. George W. Hinckley of Good Will Farm, his introduction to the two State boys; Dr. F. N. Seerley; E. M. Robinson, and N. S. Greet, Somerville.

The Ninth Conference was held at Newton in 1899, and was the first of the three-day session Conferences, opening on Friday afternoon, February 24, and closing Sunday evening, February 26. The guiding hand of E. M. Robinson, the State Boys' Secretary, can be seen in the arrangement of the program and details of the Conference. Two hundred and sixty-five delegates were present. It was at this Conference that the banquet features with speakers were introduced. The Boys' Endowment Fund was inaugurated at the Saturday morning session, when $223.50 was given to start the fund. Standards were also discussed. Great changes had been made during the past five years. The discussion led to the adoption of the following: "that the minimum age of the members should be twelve years; that the older boys were very desirable, and should be held after the age of sixteen; that the purposes of the department should be high, clearly defined, well known by all the members and the public at large; that the Boys' Work Committee should be composed of Christian men; that every boy was not desirable as a member, since the work of the department is not so much reformation

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as formation." These standards in a large degree have become the standards of boys' work in North America.

The speakers of the Conference were: Rev. George W. Hinckley, William Knowles Cooper, Springfield; Dr. Luther H. Gulick, Springfield; Mrs. Harriet T. Todd, Boston; Dr. Julia Morton Plummer, Boston; Rev. Dr. J. E. Tuttle, Worcester; Rev. Edwin H. Hughes, Malden; L. E. Hawkins, Cambridge, now General Secretary at Providence, R. I. Dr. F. N. Seerley spoke at Boys' Meeting, Sunday morning at ten-thirty A.M., when ninety boys decided for pure living. While this boys' meeting was in progress in Association Hall, the men spent the time in the parlors, in prayer for the speaker and the boys. At three P.M. a testimony meeting for boys was conducted by Rev. Mr. Hinckley. The farewell meeting was held in the Eliot Church.

Comment on this Conference was as follows: "I noticed with pleasure the difference in age from the boys of last year. I think it wise to have the Conference last three days and close on Sunday." "The money spent on the supervision of the Boys' Work this year is one of the wisest expenditures of the State Committee."

The Tenth Conference was held at Gardner, January 26, 27, 28, 1900. The same general features of the Newton Conference prevailed. Rev. George W. Hinckley led the opening devotional services at the various sessions and gave the address on Saturday evening. Those who addressed the Conference were: Rev. Herbert S. Johnson, D.D., Boston; Rev. William Byron Forbush, Ph.D.; Thomas Chew, Fall River; Hon. Frederick Fosdick, Fitchburg; Dr. F. N. Seerley and Dr. Lloyd B. Wright.

"What the Secretaries Think," was a discussion period for Secretaries only, led by Cullen B. Snell, General Secretary at Haverhill. They decided that "Boys' Work was on the eve of a great change, that it would soon be much more extensive and receive more attention. . . . Its scope and possibilities well nigh boundless."

At the farewell service prayers were offered for the beloved and honored State Chairman, Oliver H. Durrell, who lay on his death bed, and who, three days later, January 31, passed away.

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Beginning with this Conference, photographic records of all officers and delegates attending the Conferences were made and form an interesting part of this history.

The Eleventh Conference was held in Pawtucket, R. I., March 22, 23, 24, 1901. Three hundred and seventy-seven delegates were present, making a record attendance over previous gatherings. Among the boy officers chosen was Earle B. Cross, Providence, who formerly served the Providence Association as Boys' Work Secretary. Upon graduating from Brown University, he attended the Newton Theological Seminary, and is now pastor of the Baptist Church in Dover, N. H. The following is quoted from a letter received February 9, 1915:

"You speak of how many of the boys received an inspiration for Christian service at the Conferences of old. I know that they meant much to me. I still hold to an interest in such work. With all my other duties I find much time to put in with my scouts. As chairman of the Boys' Work Commission of the Federation of Churches in this place I hope soon to have a work started which I hope will develop into something permanent. There is no Y. M. C. A. here.

"The scenes of the Pawtucket Conference of 1901 come back vividly to me. I recall especially the closing moments. The great circle was formed about the church auditorium, and I was to lead in a closing prayer as President. To say that I was scared is putting it mildly. I recall that E. M. Robinson stood beside me, and the grip of his hand as the circle was formed gave me some confidence, and I decided that the Lord's Prayer might be easier than any other and just as effective. Then I began. Only a few phrases had fallen from my lips when something seemed to open a vista in my mind and I saw those fellows going back to their homes with no inspiration other than that of the very familiar and rather formal prayer which I was repeating from memory. I stopped. Mr. Robinson squeezed my hand in sympathy and he seemed to squeeze me full of a new spirit. He thought that I had forgotten; but I had just remembered. The phrases which I then uttered and the language was by no means as choice as that of

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the Lord's Prayer; but I prayed for the Spirit of God to fill us chock full and to help us to live for Him before our chums. It was an experience I shall never forget, and I am reminded of 'Tune my heart to sing Thy praise' whenever I think of it."

Ivan P. Flood, Boston, an account of whom is given in another chapter of this book, and Alexander H. Abbott, Clinton, now the pastor of the First Baptist Church, Albany, N. Y., were also delegates at this Conference.

The altruistic spirit was emphasized at the Conference, and the subject "How to Help the Other Fellow" was freely discussed. Charley Gilkey, then attending Harvard University, led the devotional period Saturday morning. This Conference was given over largely to the boys, fourteen of whom read papers upon various subjects, followed by open discussion from the floor of the Conference.

Rev. Emery W. Hunt, Boston; Rev. A. W. Jefferson, Pawtucket; Harold W. Buchanan, New York City, and Dr. F. N. Seerley, Springfield, gave addresses.

Reference was made at the Saturday afternoon session to the illness of W. H. Whipple, of Salem, the founder of boys' work, and prayer offered.

Saturday morning, at ten-forty-five, the delegates left in special cars for Providence, where they witnessed a boys' gymnasium drill, participated in by one hundred Providence boys under Professor Hebbard.

Sunday morning at ten-thirty, Dr. Seerley spoke to five hundred boys upon a "Pure Life"; thirty-two boys responded to his invitation. In the afternoon a meeting for boys was addressed by E. M. Robinson, upon the subjects of daily Bible reading, prayer, and tithing. At the same time a women's meeting was held in the Methodist Church, addressed by the Assistant State Secretary, D. L. Rogers. The farewell service was held in the Park Place Congregational Church, and conducted by Mr. Robinson.

The Twelfth Conference was held at Haverhill, March 21 to 23, 1902. The attendance tested the capacity of Haverhill's hospitality. Although the going of Mr. Robinson to the International Committee as Boys' Secretary seriously handicapped the preliminary planning, yet the Conference

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proved unusually successful. The singing was a special feature. The real event of the Conference was the appearance upon the platform of the First Baptist Church, the Conference church, on Saturday evening, of Congressman Moody, Secretary-elect of the United States Navy. He was enthusiastically received and his message was "Boys, remember your privileges and duties as citizens of the best and grandest country in the world."

E. M. Robinson came from New York, and gave the Sunday afternoon address on "Christian Service." The report for this year shows that forty-nine Departments had 4486 members, a total weekly attendance at Bible classes of 758, and that fourteen Associations had Boys' Secretaries.

The holding of all the sessions in one church proved very successful and established a precedent which has been followed ever since.

The Thirteenth Conference was held in Worcester, February 20 to 22, 1903. Great changes had taken place in methods of work among boys since Worcester entertained the Conference in 1893, ten years before. The attendance, 324, was larger, and the boys who came as delegates were of an older type. State Committeemen became interested enough to attend the Conference, and among the members present were: C. F. Borden of Fall River, chairman of Boys' Work Committee; Lewis A. Crossett, North Abington; A. W. Esleeck, Holyoke; A. W. Hale, Winchester; James Logan, Worcester; G. L. Richards, Boston, and A. C. Stone, Chelsea.

The stereopticon played an important part in the program. It was used to project scenes of summer camps, and songs for the opening services. Addresses were given by Rev. James A. Francis, Boston; Rev. G. W. Hinckley; Dr. Lloyd B. Wright; Charles R. Scott, State Boys' Secretary of New Jersey; and Charles T. Kilbourne, of Orange, N. J., chairman of State Boys' Work.

This Conference started the movement for securing a full time State Boys' Secretary and great excitement prevailed when it was announced on Saturday afternoon by Dr. Wright, that seventy-two newsboys of Pittsburg, Pa., had sent $5 to be applied to the salary of a Boys'

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State Secretary; $330 additional was quickly subscribed by the delegates, and through the generous gifts of Lewis A. Crossett, and others, the salary of such a Secretary was assured. It was announced at this Conference that $1000 had been secured for an endowment fund of $25,000 for boys' work, most of this amount coming from boys under seventeen years of age.

The Fourteenth Conference was held at Somerville, February 19 to 21, 1904, in the Broadway Congregational Church, and the high-water mark in attendance reached — 404 delegates from forty-four Associations. After the Worcester Conference in the spring of 1903, H. W. Gibson, General Secretary of the Lancaster, Pa., Association, was called to the State Boys' Secretaryship. He accepted and began work on September 1, 1903. Careful preparation was made for this Conference. The music was led by an orchestra made up of twenty boy musicians from all parts of the two States, under the direction of a boy, Franz A. Thomson, Worcester, and the Newton Boys' Glee Club, under Carlton L. Ellison. The general theme of the program was "Christ for the Boys and the Boys for Christ." Addresses were given by Rev. James I. Vance, D.D., Newark, N. J.; E. M. Robinson, New York; H. M. Moore, Boston, and Rev. H. H. Leavitt.

At the Saturday morning session under the leadership of Ivan P. Flood, then of Boston, $841.64 was subscribed for State Boys' Work by the Departments of the two States. In the afternoon a Conference was held of the Phi Alpha Pi members, a new fraternity founded in that year by Mr. Gibson.

Ninety-six boys accepted Christ at the meeting addressed by H. M. Moore, vice-chairman of the State Committee. Ten boys were present at this meeting who had accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior at the Haverhill Conference held in 1902.

Space will not permit for detail events in the Conferences held from 1905 to 1914. Each Conference had some outstanding feature and marked an epoch in the history of boys' work. Only these special features will be noted. The table of attendance is given in another part of this book.

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The Fifteenth Conference was held at Brockton, February 17 to 19, 1905, in the Central Methodist Episcopal Church. An unusual feature was the division of the entire delegation of 424, into twenty-five groups for Bible study under the leadership of Secretaries. These groups met from nine to nine-thirty A.M., Saturday. The lesson was taken from W. D. Murray's "Life of Christ." Another innovation was an address "Boys' Work from a Mother's Viewpoint," by Mrs. F. A. Pease of Fall River. Saturday morning one-minute reports of the best things in each Department were given. At three o'clock the Conference was divided into three groups for Conferences: 1, High school boys; 2, Grammar school boys; 3, employed boys. A message was received from George Williams, London, England, the founder of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Addresses were given by Rev. Francis J. Van Horn, D.D., Worcester; Prof. Francis H. Green, West Chester, Pa., and Rev. Arthur Peabody Pratt, Chelsea; Nat D. Ayer, Boston, led the State orchestra.

The Sixteenth Conference was held in Springfield, March 16, 17 and 18, 1906, in the State Street Baptist Church. The banquet speeches established a record of seven talks in twenty-five minutes, under the guidance of Lewis A. Crossett, who was the toastmaster. The Conference speakers were Rev. Allan A. Stockdale, Boston; Mrs. M. P. Higgins, Worcester; Rev. D. B. Hahn, D.D., Springfield; and E. M. Robinson, New York. State Boys' Secretaries, Charles R. Scott, New Jersey; W. H. Burger, New York, and F. A. Crosby, Pennsylvania, were present and gave greetings to the boys.

The practical demonstration on the platform of a Cabinet in session; a boys' Bible Class, taught by Fred A. Cummings of Springfield, at that time a seventeen-year-old boy, and who at present is the Boys' Work Secretary at Newton; and a class in Teacher Training, composed of boy teachers of Bible Classes, picked at random from the delegates, taught by the Boys' State Secretary, H. W. Gibson, were features of the program.

For months a band of twenty boys daily prayed for the Sunday meeting addressed by Mr. Robinson. 105 older

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boys of the nine hundred present made definite decisions for Christian living. Each boy, as he made the decision, came to the front of the platform and signed the covenant card: "I accept Jesus Christ as my Savior and Friend and I will try hard to do what I think He would like to have me do."

The Seventeenth Conference was held in Lowell, February 22, 23, 24, 1907, in the Trinitarian Congregational Church. A remarkable display of photographs, representing the various Association activities, and charts giving in graphic form the progress of the work, formed a feature of this Conference. Addresses were given by Rev. John Hopkins Denison, Boston; R. Alfred Waite, New York, and J. B. Carpenter, Jr., Brooklyn. The Sunday afternoon meeting in Odd Fellows Hall, was attended by seven hundred boys. F. H. Sincerbeaux, a young New York lawyer, gave a thrilling address on "The Manliness of Christ." At the close, 123 boys decided to serve Jesus Christ. Only sixty-eight of the delegates attending the Conference were under fifteen years of age.

The Eighteenth Conference was held in Lynn, February 21, 22, 23, 1908, in the Washington Street Baptist Church. At this Conference was introduced the quiet preparatory service, which opened the Conference on Friday at four P.M. Rev. George W. Hinckley gave the address. Organ music blended with purposeful hymns, scores of volunteer prayers and the inspiring addresses, created a devotional atmosphere which continued throughout the Conference.

The speakers, in addition to Rev. Mr. Hinckley, were Jacob A. Riis, New York City; Rev. John S. Lyon, D.D., Holyoke; R. Alfred Waite, New York City; Rev. Allan A. Stockdale, Boston, and Y. Morise of Japan.

On Saturday afternoon a number of Discussion Clubs were conducted, taking up various phases of Association work, such as social, physical, educational, etc. At the close of each discussion, recommendations were adopted, which formed the policy of work for the coming year, among the local Associations.

A Boys' State Council was organized on Saturday afternoon composed of a representative from each Association

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in the two States, with the chairman of the State Boys' Work Committee and State Boys' Secretary as members ex-officio. Forty Associations were represented. The officers elected were: Advisory Chairman, F. O. Winslow, Norwood; Chairman, Herrick Aiken, Lawrence; Vice-Chairman, Seth F. A. Wood, Newton; Secretary-Treasurer, James G. Pottinger, Boston. After a year's existence it was not deemed advisable to continue.

The Nineteenth Conference was held in Providence, R. I., February 19, 20, 21, 1909, in the Union Congregational Church. At the banquet on Friday night in the Central Baptist Church, the delegates were welcomed by the Governor of Rhode Island, Aram J. Pothier, the first time a Governor of a State had ever addressed a Conference in the two States, and by the Episcopal Bishop of Rhode Island, William N. McVicar. No Bishop had spoken at any previous gathering. The toastmaster was Ex-Governor George H. Utter of Westerly, R. I., a member of the State Committee. This was a remarkable exhibition of Christian fellowship, Governor Pothier being a Catholic, Ex-Governor Utter, a Seventh Day Adventist, Bishop McVicar, an Episcopalian, and Mayor Fletcher, a Baptist.

A series of organ recitals by Ernest L. Mehaffey, Newton, preceded each session. Addresses were given by Commander Ballington Booth; Ernest L. VerWiebe, the famous Harvard 1909 football player; President George B. Stewart, D.D., Auburn Theological Seminary; David R. Porter, New York; C. C. Robinson, Boys' State Secretary of Maine; W. H. Burger, Boys' State Secretary, New York; and E. C. Worman, State Student Secretary, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

At the farewell meeting the Forward Step card was used for the first time. A sealed envelope containing a card upon which was printed a number of suggestions, was given each delegate. After silent prayer, and at the signal, these envelopes were opened, and the delegates put an X before the things he determined to do. The result was as follows: 160 accepted Jesus Christ, 61 decided to unite with the church, 31 decided to teach Bible classes, 70 to give

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systematically, 126 to do committee service, 164 to read the Bible and pray daily, 100 to give up various habits.

State Boys' Secretary H. W. Gibson was presented with a handsome loving cup at the Saturday evening session, upon the completion of his twenty years as an Association Secretary.

The Twentieth Conference was held in Holyoke, January 28, 29, 30, 1910, in the Second Congregational Church. The custom of delegates paying fifty cents each for the banquet was established at this Conference. Heretofore the banquet was a complimentary affair given by the Woman's Auxiliary. This was a notable Conference. The sessions held in the beautiful auditorium of the Second Congregational Church were void of all applause and the rapt attention given to the speakers was remarkable. Those who gave the Conference addresses were: Rev. Lucius Bugbee, D.D., Brookline; Carl W. Hamilton, a Yale student; James A. Whitman, State Religious Work Secretary; Ex-Governor George H. Utter, Westerly, R. I.; E. M. Robinson, New York; Dr. George J. Fisher, New York, and Commander A. V. Wadhams, U. S. N. The story of the first Boys' Conference in Massachusetts, held in Everett, January 28, 1891, was told by Mr. William F. Moore, Everett, who organized the Conference twenty years previous. Greetings were given by a number of officers of former Conferences, and many telegrams received.

A sectional Conference for adult workers was held Saturday afternoon, presided over by Mr. Robinson. Sunday evening an organ recital and musical program was given by Organist W. C. Hammond and a chorus of thirty voices. Morning Watch prayer cards were used at this Conference for the first time.

The six-year goal printed on page 52 was presented at the afternoon session by Mr. Gibson.

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A SIX YEAR GOAL

Boys' Work of Young Men's Christian Associations, Massachusetts and Rhode Island

1910	STUDY OF BOYHOOD. 1. Survey of community. [good or evil. (*a*) Discover every agency at work with and for boys, either for (*b*) Ascertain the real vital thing needed in the life of boys. (*c*) Submit the findings to a council who shall make recommen- (*d*) Adopt a definite policy of work. [dations. 2. Sectional and local conferences. 3. Research work. 4. Reading courses.
1911	OPERATION OF DEFINITE POLICY 1. Through responsible leadership. (*a*) Adult committeeman. (*b*) Cabinet of boys. (*c*) Boy committeemen. (*d*) Paid leadership. 2. Activities for all-round development. 3. Adequate facilities for Boys' Work in new buildings. 4. Through missionary service. 5. Development of future Boys' Work Directors. 6. Cultivation of financial constituency.
1912	EFFICIENT AND ADEQUATE LEADERSHIP 1. A Boys' Work Director, giving 75 per cent of time, in every Association having 100 boy members. 2. A Boys' Work Director, giving full time, in every Association having over 100 boy members. 3. Two Boys' Work Directors, giving full time, in every Association having 300 or more boy members. 4. Enlistment of College-trained men as leaders. 5. Co-operative work among the paid leadership.
1913	COMMUNITY CO-OPERATION 1. Change competition into co-operation through [with boys. (*a*) Council of representatives from organizations having to do (*b*) Conferences for parents, teachers and employers. (*c*) Civic betterment work. (*d*) Co-operative action. 2. Emphasis upon formative rather than reformative work.
1914	FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY 1. Definite budget and appropriations. 2. Constituency of department givers. 3. Proper recognition of salary value of Boys' Work Directors. 4. Proportionate support of international, State and foreign work. 5. Endowments.
1915	EXTENSION WORK 1. Home Bible Classes. 2. Boys' departments in Sunday Schools. 3. Association buildings to work *from* rather than to work *in*. 4. Volunteer leadership of club activities in rural communities. 5. Boys' branches. [tory school boys. 6. Homelike dormitories in large cities for employed boys and prepara-

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The Twenty-first "Coming of Age" Conference was held in Worcester, February 17, 18, 19, 1911, in the Central Congregational Church. For the third time, Worcester became host of a State Conference and her hospitality was shown in many ways. The banquet was excellent, and the detail arrangements perfect. The Conference speakers were: Rev. Lucius H. Bugbee, D.D., Brookline; James A. Whitman, New York; Rev. D. Brewer Eddy, Boston; Rev. O. P. Gifford, D.D., Brookline, and Dr. George W. Tupper, State Immigrant Secretary.

A new secretarial Conference for students of Preparatory Schools was introduced, presided over by Dr. D. W. Abercrombie, headmaster of Worcester Academy, and addressed by Prof. E. M. Lewis, Williams College, and State Student Secretary Henry H. King.

At this Conference it was decided to observe the first State Boys' Day, March 4, 1911, an account of which will be found in another chapter of this history. Five hundred and fifty-six delegates attended the Conference, three hundred of whom were High School and Preparatory School boys. A registration fee of fifty cents per delegate to pay Conference program expenses was charged at this Conference.

The Twenty-second Conference was held in Fall River, February 23, 24, 25, 1912, in the Central Congregational Church. A new standard of efficiency was established by the local Committee. Every detail smoothly carried out. The Conference badge was a ribbon, with the lettering of the Conference, a reproduction of the Fall River building all woven in pure silk, and made in Fall River by the Providence Yarn Company. It was the creation of John Marshall, a member of the firm and intensely interested in boys' work.

The speakers at the Conference were: David R. Porter, New York; Rev. George W. Hinckley; Dr. George W. Tupper; Rev. Clarence F. Swift, D.D., Fall River.

A blackboard discussion was introduced at the Saturday afternoon session, in focusing the attention of the delegation upon the making of a "Program of Work for 1912." After spirited discussion each delegation held a meeting and

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decided upon three definite things they would include in their local program. These decisions were then handed in to the secretary of the Conference. Things happened in 1912.

The State Executive Committee held their monthly meeting at Fall River, and attended the sessions of the Conference.

The Twenty-third Conference was held in Pittsfield, Mass., February 21, 22, 23, 1913, in the Methodist Episcopal Church. This was the first time a State Boys' Conference had been held in the extreme western part of the State, and it was thought there would be a small attendance, but the registration of 518 proved it to be the second largest ever held. The State Armory was used for holding the banquet, and the Conference delegates marched four abreast from the church to the armory, under the marshalship of J. B. Withee, Lawrence.

A real Berkshire Hill snow storm prevailed during most of the time of the Conference, but the enthusiasm was undaunted and the hospitality unchilled.

Each service of the Conference was carefully planned, and adapted from "Service of Worship for Boys" — a new departure in program making. The Conference speakers were: Albert E. Roberts, New York; Rev. James A. Francis, D.D., Boston; Dean Charles R. Brown, D.D., Yale Divinity School; Arthur N. Cotton, New York; President Lemuel H. Murlin, D.D., Boston University and B. R. Barber, Calcutta, India.

The Efficiency Shield was presented to the Lowell Association, the first winners of the shield. Forty Sunday Schools of Berkshire County sent delegates. E. H. Kessler, Holyoke, as for the three preceding Conferences, conducted the singing.

The Twenty-fourth Conference was held in Lawrence, February 20, 21, 22, 1914, in the Central Methodist Church. The delegates arrived from Boston in special cars over the Boston & Maine Railroad, and were escorted by the Essex County Training School Band and Boy Scouts to the Association Building. Lawrence had witnessed many parades but never one like this, for it represented the future

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leadership of the two States as well as sturdy, red-blooded, enthusiastic Christian boyhood.

The Conference speakers were: Rev. George A. Gordon, D.D., Boston; Rev. Oscar Edward Maurer, D.D., New Haven; Principal Gaylord William Douglas, Wilbraham Academy; DeWitt G. Wilcox, M.D., Brookline; G. Sherwood Eddy, India; C. C. Robinson, New York; Captain Jack Crawford, New York; and Ivan P. Flood, Newark, N. J.

A closing service of responses was used for the first time which summed up the purpose of the Association and of the Conference.

Recognition was made of the completion of twenty-five years of service of Mr. Gibson as an Association Secretary.

Thus, in brief, terse form is given the history of these remarkable gatherings. Necessarily much has been omitted. The real record is written in the lives of thousands who received the messages of these Conferences into their very being, and were transformed thereby, and who today are giving of their best to the extension of Christ's kingdom upon the earth.

High School Boys' Class, Worcester

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CHAPTER SIX

CONFERENCE OFFICERS

TO be selected as an officer of a State Boys' Conference is considered a great honor by the boys of the two States. The early Conferences were presided over by men, in fact the first Conference in 1891 had as its President John W. Cook, who at that time was the Assistant State Secretary and is now the General Secretary of the Brooklyn Association. The Secretary was W. F. Moore of Everett, who was instrumental in making possible the gathering. It was not until the 1896 Conference that boys were elected as officers. It is interesting to note that of those who have served as officers the following are now Secretaries in the Young Men's Christian Association: John W. Cook, General Secretary of the City of Brooklyn; E. D. Moyer, General Secretary, Easton, Pa.; George W. Hannum, Assistant Secretary, Pittsfield, Mass.; Levi Fountain, House Secretary, Philadelphia Central; A. M. Chesley, State Boys' Secretary, Pennsylvania; Ivan P. Flood, City Secretary for Boys' Work, Newark, N. J.; Robert S. Crane, Business Secretary, Evanston, Ill.; Harold D. Ripley, Financial and Membership Secretary, Portland, Me.; Lester H. Clee, Boys' Work Secretary, Providence, R. I.; Herbert W. Sutermeister, Assistant Boys' Work Secretary, Hartford, Conn.; Lindsey Chilson, Assistant Employment Secretary, Springfield, Mass. Those who are now active pastors are: Rev. Charles W. Gilkey, Hyde Park Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill.; Rev. Alexander H. Abbott, First Baptist Church, Albany, N. Y.; Rev. Earle B. Cross, Brown University, Providence, R. I.; Rev. G. Harold Braman, North Adams, Mass. Others may have entered the Ministry of whom no record has been received.

No group photographs were obtainable of the officers of the first nine Conferences. The names of these officers are as follows and names of the officers of Conferences from

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President Hyde Park Conference, 1898
Alexander Abbott, Watertown.

President of Newton Conference, 1899
Nathan Hawkes, Cambridge.

Officers of the Pawtucket Conference, 1901. Secretary, A. H. Abbott, Clinton. Assistant Secretary, B. M. McLyman, Newport. First Vice-President, Ivan P. Flood, Boston. President, Earle B. Cross, Providence. Second Vice-President, Willis Gurney, North Adams.

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1900 to 1914 are printed underneath the cut of each group.

First Annual Conference, Everett, Mass., Wednesday, January 28, 1891. President, J. W. Cook, Boston. Vice-Presidents: Frank Jones, Cambridge; W. A. Thompson, Providence, R. I.; F. H. Foster, Springfield; L. V. Ray, Haverhill; Louis Dow, Woburn. Secretary, W. F. Moore, Everett. Assistant Secretaries: F. E. Briggs, New Bedford; Claude Bates, Watertown.

Second Annual Conference, Hyde Park, Mass., Friday, January 29, 1892. President, A. F. Barrett, Newton. Vice-Presidents: B. S. Stacy, Springfield; Walter Jones, Natick. Secretaries: J. E. Canfield, Winchester; F. R. H. Daniels, Providence; J. L. Brown, Newburyport.

Third Annual Conference, Worcester, Mass., Saturday and Sunday, January 21 and 22, 1893. President, George C. Whitney, Worcester. Secretary, C. H. Scholefield, Providence, R. I. Assistant Secretary, Charles M. Abbott, Watertown.

Fourth Annual Conference, Woburn-Springfield, January 26-27, 1894. Woburn: President, Robert Briggs, New Bedford. Vice-Presidents: W. C. Appleton, Providence; Nelson P. Brown, Everett; Lawrence Franklin, Melrose; Fred Robinson, Natick. Secretary, W. D. Cram, Haverhill. Assistant Secretary, George Seabury, Newport. Springfield: President, Lowland Haynes, Worcester. Vice-Presidents: W. G. Perry, Holyoke; Arthur Towne, Springfield. Secretary, Harry H. Kellog, Greenfield.

Fifth Annual Conference, Holyoke-Chelsea, January 18-19, 1895. Holyoke: President, Walter Dyer, Springfield. Vice-Presidents: Perley Hyde, Holyoke; George Bicknell, Dalton; Harold Gulick, Worcester. Secretary, Harry H. Kellog, Greenfield. Assistant Secretary, E. D. Moyer, Springfield. Chelsea: President, Robert Bakeman. Vice-Presidents: Albert McCoy, Melrose; George T. Seabury, Newport; William R. P. Davey, Providence. Secretary, Waldo Hallett, Somerville. Assistant Secretary, Dana B. Jefferson, Norwood.

Sixth Annual Conference, Chicopee-Watertown, March 27-28, 1896. Watertown: President, Charles Gilkey, Watertown. Vice-Presidents: Walter McIntire, Providence;

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Officers of the Gardner Conference, 1900. First Vice-President, Frank T. Chase, Pawtucket. President, Levi P. Fountain, Haverhill. Secretary, Cecil T. Derry, Cambridge. Assistant Secretary, Earle B. Cross, Providence. Second Vice-President, Harry Briggs, Boston.

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Carl Babb, Hyde Park; John Cannell, Everett. Secretary, George W. Kimball, Cambridge. Assistant Secretary, Fred Merrill, Amesbury. Chicopee: President, Benjamin Rust, Worcester. Secretary, Robert Boothe, Holyoke. Assistant Secretary, G. W. Hannum, Westfield.

SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Wollaston, Mass., Friday and Saturday, March 19 and 20, 1897. President, C. E. Shaw, Waltham, Mass. Vice-Presidents: Edward C. Hewitson, Wollaston; N. A. Baker, Everett; Robert T. Sisson, Lynn. Secretary, P. C. Hyde, Holyoke, Mass. Assistant Secretary, A. W. Bailey, Dalton.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Hyde Park, Mass., May 13-14, 1898. President, Mr. Alexander Abbott, Watertown.

NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Newton, Mass., February 24-25, 1899. President, Nathan Hawkes, Cambridge. Vice-Presidents: Arthur Bruce, Gardner; Levi Fountain, Merrimac. Secretaries, A. M. Chesley, Springfield; A. E. Knowlton, Malden.

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Officers of the Haverhill Conference, 1902. Assistant Secretary F. R. DeLong, Everett. Secretary, William E. Leonard, Salem. Second Vice-President. B. H. Tucker, Melrose. President, William E. Blake, Haverhill. First Vice-President, Harold P. Blodgett, Springfield.

Officers of the Worcester Conference, 1903. Secretary, Darwin Leavitt, Somerville. First Vice-President, Amos Mills, Winchester. Assistant Secretary, Laurence Holt, Charlestown. President, H. G. Blodgett, Springfield. Second Vice-President, Royal Gilkey, Watertown.

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The Officers of the Somerville Conference, 1904. Second Vice-President, T. Stewart Little, Pawtucket. Assistant Secretary, G. Harold Braman, North Adams. First Vice-President, E. Darwin Leavitt, Somerville. Secretary. Alton W. Ridley, Boston. President, Harold W. Sprague Brockton.

The Officers of the Brockton Conference, 1905. Assistant Secretary, W. V. Whiting, Providence. Secretary Robert S. Crane, Springfield. First Vice-President, K. Fred Pitcher, Brockton. Second Vice-President, William H. Clark, Westfield. President, Lauren W. Waldron, Somerville.

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The Officers of the Springfield Conference, 1906. Secretary. Coit O. Colburn, Southbridge. First Vice-President, Harold D. Ripley, Springfield. Second Vice-President, Allison B. Smith, Pawtucket. Assistant Secretary, Foster Bailey, Fitchburg. President, Earl Stanley Lewis, Worcester.

The Officers of the Lowell Conference, 1907. Secretary, Norman S. Fisher. Gloucester. Assistant Secretary, Gilbert H. Burnham, Jr., Newport. President, K. Fred Pitcher, Brockton. First Vice-President, Arthur F. Woodies, Lowell. Second Vice-President, Samuel Knight, 2d, Manchester.

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The Officers of the Lynn Conference, 1908. Secretary, Lester H. Clee, Worcester. Assistant Secretary, Robert P. Bagg, Holyoke. President, Donald Gordon Roby, Malden. Second Vice-President, Earl Crossley, Providence. First Vice-President, Robert Boyer, Lynn.

The Officers of the Providence Conference, 1909. Secretary, James G. Pottinger, Boston. Assistant Secretary, Edwin J. Jones, Jr., Fall River. First Vice-President, Harlan M. Walker, North Adams. President, Willard B. Anthony, Providence. Vice-President, John Murgan, Lawrence.

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The Officers of the Holyoke Conference, 1910. Secretary, Carlton H. Allen, Boston. Assistant Secretary, Wadsworth Wilbur, Taunton. First Vice-President, Robert H. Russell, Holyoke. Second Vice-President, Paul E. Carruthers, South Deerfield. President, Richard L. Keith, Worcester.

The Officers of the Worcester Conference, 1911. From left to right.— Secretary, John Hoar, Newport. First Vice-President, Harold W. Blakely, Salem. President, H. Stanley Tamblyn, Sharon. Second Vice-President, Richard W. Goss, New Bedford. Assistant Secretary, Herbert W. Sutermeister, Quincy.

The Officers of the Fall River Conference, 1912. Secretary, Donald F. Hosmer, Pawtucket. First Vice-President, Joseph W. Cheatham, Fall River. President, Cecil W. Tucker, Chelsea. Assistant Secretary, Clarence B. Chase, Brockton. Second Vice-President, Harold Alden, Norwood.

The Officers of the Lawrence Conference, 1914. First Vice-President, Carl Currier, Lawrence. President, Hugh Boyd, Newton. Second Vice-President Rufus Bond, Everett. Assistant Secretary, Sturgis Hunt, Quincy. Secretary, Chauncy Wales, Abington.

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The Officers of the Pittsfield Conference, 1913. Secretary, Irving Turner, Methuen. Assistant Secretary, Lindsey H. Chilson, Springfield. First Vice-President Charles Grosbeck, Dalton. President Gilbert L. West, 2d, Pittsfield. Second Vice-President, Horton P. Kennedy, Worcester Academy.

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FORMER BOYS' CONFERENCES

	PLACE AND DATE	PRESIDENT	Associations Represented	Delegates	Visitors and Speakers	Total
1	Everett.....January 28, 1891	J. W. Cook.....Boston	24	133	62	195
2	Hyde Park.....January 29, 1892	A. F. Barrett.....Newton	28	211	40	251
3	Worcester.....January 21, 22, 1893	George C. Whitney.....Worcester	31	243	49	292
4	Woburn / Springfield .....January 26, 27, 1894	Robert Briggs.....New Bedford / Roland Haynes.....Worcester	27 / 12	185 / 101	32 / 17	335 / 118
5	Chelsea / Holyoke .....January 18, 19, 1895	Robert Bakeman.....Chelsea / Walter Dyer.....Springfield	32 / 14	219 / 102	40 / 30	391 / 132
6	Watertown / Chicopee .....March 27, 28, 1896	Charles Gilkey.....Watertown / Benjamin Rust.....Worcester	30 / 10	155 / 54	65 / 25	299 / 79
7	Quincy.....March 19, 20, 1897	C. E. Shaw.....Waltham	26	148	46	194
8	Hyde Park.....May 13, 14, 1898	Alexander Abbott.....Watertown	34	198	14	212
9	Newton.....February 24-26, 1899	Nathan Hawkes.....Cambridge	41	240	25	265
10	Gardner.....January 26-28, 1900	Levi W. Fountain.....Haverhill	31	190	10	200
11	Pawtucket, R. I.....March 22-24, 1901	Earle B. Cross.....Providence	45	356	21	377
12	Haverhill.....March 21-23, 1902	William E. Blake.....Haverhill	41	305	21	326
13	Worcester.....February 20-22, 1903	Harold Blodgett.....Springfield	34	229	95	324
14	Somerville.....February 19-21, 1904	Harold W. Sprague.....Brockton	44	363	41	404
15	Brockton.....February 17-19, 1905	Lauren W. Waldron.....Somerville	52	374	50	424
16	Springfield.....March 16-18, 1906	Earl S. Lewis.....Worcester	51	365	60	425
17	Lowell.....February 22-24, 1907	K. Fred Pitcher.....Brockton	67	406	50	456
18	Lynn.....February 21-23, 1908	Donald G. Roby.....Malden	83	420	102	522
19	Providence.....February 19-21, 1909	Willard B. Anthony.....Providence	60	330	125	455
20	Holyoke.....January 29-30, 1910	Richard Keith.....Worcester	70	304	225	529
21	Worcester.....February 17-19, 1911	H. Stanley Tamblyn.....Sharon	66	406	150	556
22	Fall River.....February 23-25, 1912	Cecil W. Tucker.....Chelsea	64	400	71	471
23	Pittsfield.....February 21-23, 1913	Gilbert West, 2d .....Pittsfield	54	500	18	518
24	Lawrence.....February 20-22, 1914	Hugh Boyd.....Newton	73	549	53	602
25*	Pawtucket.....February 19-21, 1915	Rufus H. Bond.....Everett	00	000	00	000
	Total Attendance.....	.....	1144	7486	1527	9352

* Book issued before Conference Convened.

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The Gardner Conference, 1900

The Pawtucket Conference, 1901

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The Haverhill Conference, 1902

The Worcester Conference, 1903

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The Somerville Conference, 1904

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The Brockton Conference, 1905

The Springfield Conference, 1906

The Lowell Conference, 1907

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The Lynn Conference. 1908

The Banquet, Lynn Conference, 1908

The Providence Conference, 1909

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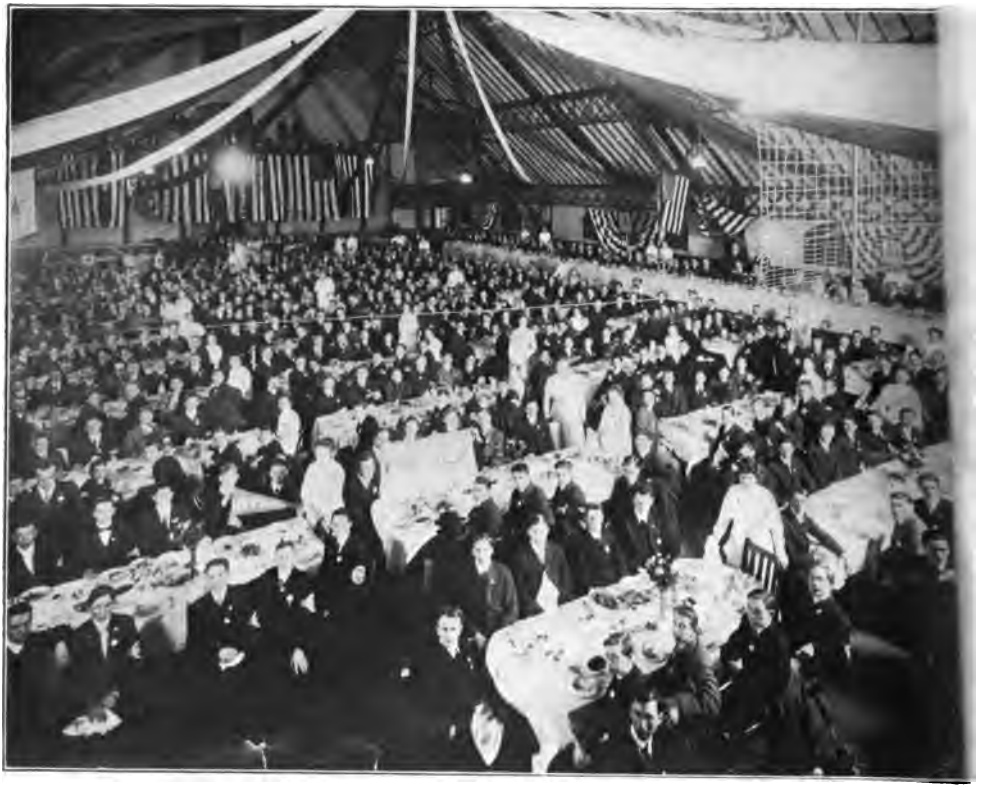
The Pittsfield Banquet, 1913. Rain prevented the photographing of the Conference Delegates



The Lawrence Banquet, 1914

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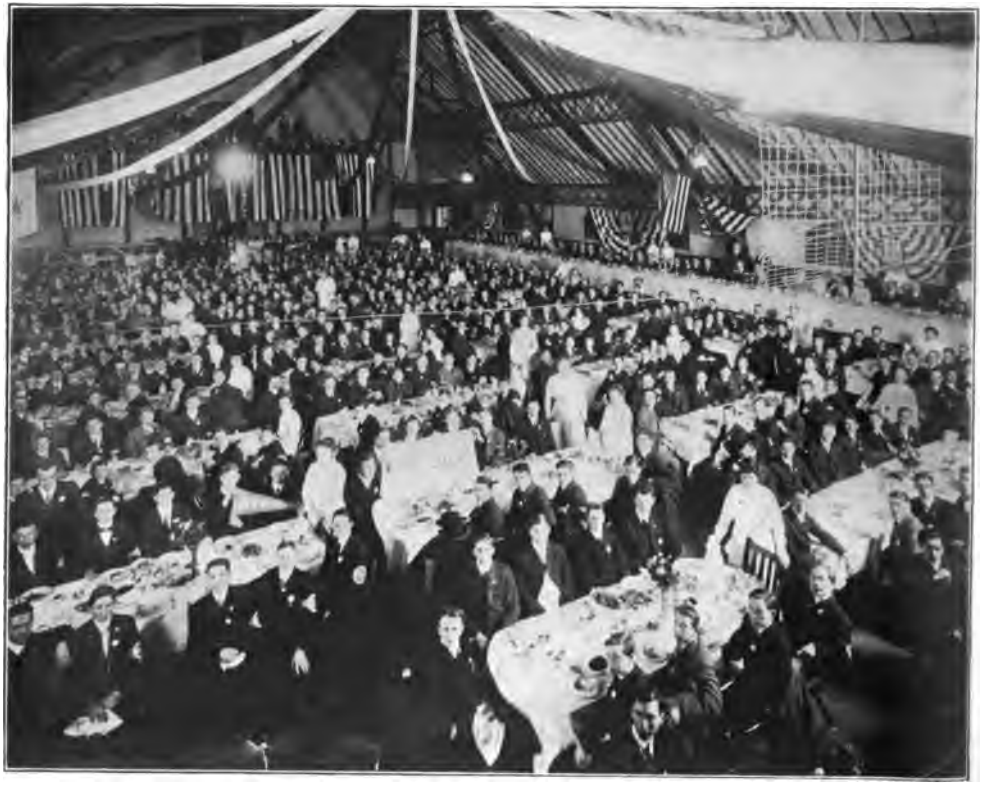
The Pittsfield Banquet, 1913. Rain prevented the photographing of the Conference Delegates



The Lawrence Banquet, 1914

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The Holyoke Conference, 1910

The Worcester Conference, 1911

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The Fall River Conference, 1912

The Lawrence Conference, 1914

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The Parade, Lawrence Conference, 1914

Boys on Local Committees, Pittsfield Conference, 1913

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Secretaries who attended the Brockton Conference, 1905

Adult Leaders and Secretaries at Worcester Conference, 1911

Adult Leaders and Secretaries at Lawrence Conference, 1914

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CHAPTER SEVEN

BOYS WHO HAVE HEARD AND ANSWERED THE CALL TO SERVICE

"Who builds in Boys builds lastingly in Truth
And 'vanished hands' are multiples in power,
And sounds of living voices, hour by hour,
Speak forth his message with the lips of Youth."

IN the late seventies a young man living in Reading, Mass., was led to give his heart to Jesus Christ and later his life to Christian service. L. Wilbur Messer was that young man. After serving the Cambridge Association from December 1, 1883, to April 1, 1888, he accepted the call of the Chicago Association to become its General Secretary, and the great work accomplished by this Association in that western metropolis is known everywhere.

L. Wilbur Messer

Another boy living in Woburn, Mass., not far away from Reading, about this same time accepted Christ and gave his life to the service of the Master. Today he is the energetic Secretary of the Buffalo Association — A. H. Whitford. His Association apprenticeship was served as General Secretary of the Middleboro Association from October 15, 1883, to September, 1886. He, after serving the Rockland, Me., Association for three years, became associated with Mr. Messer in the work at Cambridge until September 1, 1891, then at Rochester for several years, when the call came from his present field, Buffalo, N. Y.

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Back in the seventies a fun-loving and mischievous boy came into the Cambridge Association one day with a surplus of energy on hand which he so successfully misapplied that the Assistant in charge "threw him out" of the building. His love for the place, however, prompted him to make a second try the next day. This time the Assistant had a job ready for him, for this boy was an expert in running entertainments. This energetic youth of yesterday is today one of the International Secretaries for Boys' Work, Arthur N. Cotton. He served the Cambridge Association as Assistant from February 1, 1892, to September, 1892, then went to the Springfield Training School, from which he graduated in 1894. Some time was given New York State as Boys' Secretary, and also as Boys' Secretary at Rochester, N. Y. His success, however, as the Boys' Secretary in the Central Branch, Buffalo, led into the larger service in which he is now engaged as the friend and adviser of the High School boys of North America, a most responsible field of opportunity.

Arthur N. Cotton

Harvard University is not the only "life training" plant in Cambridge which has contributed leadership in the world's work. The Young Men's Christian Association of that city has had a large share in leadership training.

A Lynn boy who possessed great athletic ability and who was always fond of doing circus "stunts" heard the call to Christian living and service at a Boys' Conference. This boy, Albert M. Chesley, became Assistant Physical Director from October 1, 1893, to October, 1894. In 1900

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he graduated from the Training School at Springfield. He was also Physical Director at Southbridge, Mass., and later on at Orange, N. J. From the latter city he went to Washington, D. C. He remained here as Boys' Work Secretary until October, 1914, when he became the State Boys' Secretary of Pennsylvania.

Albert E. Roberts, the Senior International Secretary for County Work, received his early training in Massachusetts. He became Assistant Secretary in Somerville in September, 1894, and remained until September, 1896; was General Secretary at Middleboro from 1898 to 1903, Assistant Secretary at New Bedford, August 1, 1903, until January 21, 1904, when he became the State Secretary for County Work in the two States, and also the successful Director of Camp Durrell. In 1907 he accepted the call of the International Work to become one of the Secretaries in the County Work Department, and later became the Senior Secretary. He is a graduate of Mount Hermon School.

Earle B. Cross

Among the boy officers chosen at the Eleventh Conference, held in Pawtucket, R. I., in 1901, was Earle B. Cross of Providence, who formerly served the Providence Association as Boys' Work Secretary. Upon graduating from Brown University, he attended the Newton Theological Seminary, and is now pastor of the Baptist Church in Dover, N. H. He is chairman of the Boys' Work Commission of the Federation of Churches in Dover, and is active in developing what he hopes will be permanent work along those lines.

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From February 1, 1896, to April 1, 1897, George W. Hannum was the Assistant Secretary at Westfield, Mass. On May 15, 1897, he became the Boys' Secretary at Springfield, Mass., where he remained until September 1, 1901. When he was the General Secretary of the Dalton, Mass., Association from September 1, 1901, to June 1, 1904, he succeeded in securing for the boys of the two States the excellent property of 215 acres in the Berkshire Hills known as Camp Becket. From Dalton he returned to Westfield as General Secretary, where he remained until August 25, 1905. He accepted the Boys' Secretaryship of the Albany Association September 15, 1905, where he remained until September 1, 1910. From Albany he came to Pittsfield in September, 1910, and is now the Assistant Secretary of that excellent Association.

Levi P. Fountain

One of the Vice-Presidents of the Ninth Conference held in Newton, February 24, 1899, was a boy from Merrimac, named Levi P. Fountain. At the Tenth Conference, held in Gardner, January 26-28, 1900, he was elected President. Always an active boy, he soon found that his life could be invested in no better work than that of serving his fellows through the Association Secretaryship. When quite young he became the Assistant at Merrimac, October, 1898. From Merrimac he went successively to Woonsocket, R. I., Charlestown and Pittsfield, where he was Physical Director from October, 1904, to September, 1906. He went from Pittsfield to the Medical College of the University of Virginia and graduated in 1910. He then accepted a

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position in the Philadelphia Central Association and today he is the House Manager.

It was at the Boys' Conference at Pawtucket, R. I., in 1901, when Ivan P. Flood, a delegate from the Boston Association, dedicated his life to Christian work. In 1903 he became the Boys' Secretary of the Boston Association. From Boston he went to Poughkeepsie in 1905. Since 1907 he has been the Boys' Work Secretary in Newark, N. J., resigning January 24, 1915, to become the Young People's Secretary for the New Jersey Baptist Convention. Mr. Flood made rapid strides in Boys' Work, and served the Association brotherhood in many capacities as officer or committeeman of its various organizations.

Ivan P. Flood

Philip H. Slocum, the present Physical Director at Newport, R. I., entered Association work as a Physical Director in the Middleboro Association, November 9, 1904. In 1906 he went to Winsted, Conn., where he served as Physical Director until September 15, 1908; then he went to Meriden, Conn., and served in the same capacity until September 15, 1910, when he accepted his present position in Newport, R. I.

At the Third Conference held in Worcester, January 21, 1893, a boy, T. Lawrence Freeborne, made a report of the Association's boys' work at his home in Newport, R. I. Ten years later he became the Physical Director of his home Association, remaining in that capacity until October, 1905, when he went to Cambridge as Physical Director. For seven years he led the Cambridge boys

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in their physical work, and in Bible Study work. In March, 1912, he accepted the call to the Physical Directorship of the New Bedford Association, where he is at the present writing.

Ever since October 23, 1899, when James G. Barnes as a boy became a member of the Boston Association he has been active in its work. From 1899 to 1902 he was a boy member. He attended the Twelfth Boys' State Conference at Haverhill, Mass., March 21-23, 1902, when he caught the vision of Christian manliness and service. He graduated from Harvard College in 1911 with a degree of S.B. While attending college he served as the Athletic Director of the Association Summer School in 1902, and also as part time Secretary from 1909 to 1911. In the fall of 1912 he became full time Secretary and since September 1, 1914, has been the City Boys' Work Secretary. It is not often a prophet has honor in his own city, but Mr. Barnes has proven the exception to the rule, and under his leadership the Boys' Membership is soaring up into the thousands.

James G. Barnes

A young mechanic in the Starrett shops in Athol, John T. Dower, decided to undertake the difficult task of injecting new life in the local Association, by becoming its General Secretary on December 12, 1901. So successfully did he accomplish this, that the new building erected by Mr. L. H. Starrett is a testimonial of his grit and perseverance. On November 1, 1908, he entered the Bible Training School in New York, to better fit himself for his work. During his student days he gave part time to the Harlem Branch

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Association. In 1913 he became the Boys' Work Director of that Association.

Largely through Mr. Dower's influence, Eugene F. Edgerly, an Athol boy, who attended the Boys' Conference, entered the work as Assistant Secretary in Cambridge, September 1, 1906, and remained until August 1, 1907, when his health was such as made it necessary to seek the dry climate of the West. A return of health enabled him to re-enter Association work in 1912, at Akron, Ohio.

Thomas R. Williams

In 1903 a young bank clerk in Gloucester, Mass., was serving as Secretary of the local Board of Directors of the Association. When the State Convention was held in that city in the fall of 1903, this young man gave unstintingly of his time. It was at this gathering he became the leader of a group of boys who were organized later into a Phi Alpha Pi Chapter. These boys made decisions for Christian living at the Conferences. Their leader, Thomas R. Williams, in 1907, saw the possibilities of Christian service and accepted the call to the Boys' Secretaryship of the Lowell Association, where he has faithfully pursued a definite policy of work which resulted in a new building and a system of extension work which is adding many boys to the church.

At the Brockton Conference, February 19, 1905, a fifteen-year-old boy from Lowell made a decision for Christian living. The boy, Reinfred S. Gumb, on September 1, 1908, became the Office Secretary of the Lowell Association, where he is still serving the hundreds of boys and young

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men who come into their new building. On October 1, 1914, his younger brother, Wallace R., became the Assistant Boys' Work Secretary in the same Association, while a third brother, Irving, is in Brown University, preparing for Christian service as a life work. These brothers all made their decisions for life work at the Boys' Conference.

Fairhaven, Mass., was the birthplace of Samuel F. Bumpus, who as a boy could be counted upon in the New Bedford Association for the completion of whatever job he was asked to do. After graduating from High School, he became the Boys' Secretary of the New Bedford Association, January 18, 1904, and remained until September, 1906, when he entered Clark College. Upon graduation in 1909, he accepted the General Secretaryship of the Newburyport Association, where he has had the satisfaction of seeing an old building completely remodeled and opened to the public January, 1915.

Samuel F. Bumpus

The Springfield, Mass., Association has always been a training station for Association Secretaries. A class in Association work as a life work was conducted by W. Knowles Cooper when he was the General Secretary. From this class the following boys entered Association work: One of the first boys was Robert S. Crane. He was the Secretary of the Fifteenth Conference held in Brockton, Mass., February 17-19, 1905. The first Conference he attended as a boy was the one held in Pawtucket in 1901. He writes: "Beginning with that Conference I think I attended five or six of these gatherings consecutively. They were certainly a great inspiration and had a large

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influence in interesting me in the work of the Young Men's Christian Association." After graduating from High School, he served the Springfield Association as Assistant Secretary from September 2, 1907, to August 1, 1911, when he became the Business Secretary of the Evanston, Ill., Association.

A chum of Robert Crane was Clarence Barnes. They were schoolmates. Barnes was the Assistant Boys' Work Secretary in Springfield from September 1, 1906, to April, 1907, when he cast his lot with the Connecticut Association. He is now the General Secretary of the New Britain Association, having also served them for several years as Boys' Work Director.

Robert S. Crane

Frederick A. Cumming, another Springfield boy, entered the Association work in his home city as Assistant Boys' Secretary, February 17, 1908. He remained in Springfield until July, 1910, when he accepted the position of Boys' Secretary in Burlington, Vt. In December, 1912, he was called back to his home Association to serve as Boys' Secretary. On September 1, 1914, he became the Boys' Secretary at Newton where he is now doing a splendid piece of service among the boys of the Newtons.

John W. Tickel, the Office Secretary at Fall River, was led into the Christian life and service when a member of the Taunton, Mass., Boys' Department. He entered the Association work April 1, 1910, and has served the Association at Taunton, Attleboro, New Bedford, and now in Fall River.

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From the group of Springfield boys came a third, Harold D. Ripley, to give his life to Christian service. He was the Vice-President of the Conference held in Springfield, March 16-18, 1906. He began his work as a Boys' Work Secretary in Washington, D. C., where he served from September 20, 1910, to August 1, 1911. He then accepted a call to Beverly, Mass., September 1, 1911, and remained until September 1, 1914, when he became the Financial and Membership Secretary of the Portland, Me., Association.

Harold D. Ripley

Arthur L. Taylor was a member of the original Boys' Cabinet in the Holyoke Association. He was interested in the physical work. When he finished his High School course, he became the Assistant Physical Director of his home Association, September, 1909. He also pursued his studies in the Springfield Y. M. C. A. College. Upon graduating he accepted the call to the Assistant Physical Directorship in charge of the boys' work in the Providence, R. I., Association, September 1, 1914, where he is now leading hundreds of boys to physical wholeness.

Worcester has also produced many Association Secretaries. An intensive and energetic youth overcame many obstacles in his work as chairman of the Boys' Religious Work Committee. He also became a personal worker. When the State Conference was held in Lynn, Mass., February 21-23, 1908, this youth — Lester H. Clee — was chosen to be the Secretary of the gathering. That same summer he decided to give his life unreservedly

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to the Master's work, and began his Secretaryship in Quincy, Mass., July 27, 1908. He remained until August, 1911, when he became the Boys' Work Secretary at Providence, R. I. Hundreds of boys have already been won to the Christian life through his earnest endeavors.

William H. Crang was one of Clee's chums. Upon graduating from the Worcester High School, he gave part time to the office work of the Worcester Association. Later he became the Office Secretary from October 14, 1907, to September 1, 1910. In 1911 he became the Membership Secretary.

Lester H. Clee

H. W. Sutermeister

When Mr. Clee was in Quincy he took with him to the Worcester Conference, February 17-19, 1911, a High School boy — Herbert W. Sutermeister, who became the Assistant Secretary of the Conference. The Conference made such an impression upon him that he decided to give his life to Christian work among boys. After graduating from High School, he became in 1912 the Assistant Boys' Work Director of the Hartford Association, where he is making good.

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Leonard O. Waters, the Office Secretary at Malden, is a Massachusetts boy. He attended a number of State Boys' Conferences. September 4, 1905, he became the Boys' Work Secretary and Physical Director of the Everett, Mass., Association. He remained in this position until July, 1907, when he became the Boys' Work Secretary in Somerville and served until September, 1911; then entered business, but returned to Association work in September, 1914, when he accepted his present position.

Lindsey H. Chilson

Another Springfield boy to respond to the call of the Association Secretaryship is Lindsey H. Chilson. He was the Assistant Secretary of the Pittsfield Conference, February 21-23, 1913. This Conference decided for him his life work, and he is now the Assistant Employment Secretary of the Springfield Association.

Harry J. Center, the Boys' Work Secretary at Prospect Park, Brooklyn, Association, is a Gloucester product. At one of the State Boys' Conferences he accepted Christ and decided to give his life to Christian work. He became the Boys' Work Secretary of his home Association, September 1, 1905, and served until September, 1907, when he went to Newark, N. J., as Assistant to Mr. Flood. He remained in Newark until 1912, when he accepted his present position.

Raymond H. Odell, the Boys' Work Secretary at Salem, is a Salem boy who entered the work October 1, 1908. After graduating from Tufts College he also spent a year in special study in Harvard University. It is rather significant that one of Mr. Whipple's boys should be the

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Secretary of the Boys' Department which he founded in 1869.

In the summer of 1905 a careless lad of twelve years of age attended Camp Becket, from Pittsfield, Mass. The environment of the camp was so uplifting that he forgot all about his habit of swearing, and instead became interested in the Christian life. Through the influence of Mr. Calvin S. Sumner, the late Boys' Work Secretary of the Pittsfield Association, this lad, J. Hamilton Lewis, entered the work as Office Assistant in his home Association, September 2, 1913, and is now one of the Office Secretaries of the Senior Department.

J. Hamilton Lewis

No doubt there are many others, whose records are unobtainable, who, as boys, at these annual gatherings of the Boys' Divisions in the two States, heard the call to Christian service. They are now enjoying the abundant reward of seeing boys heroically living clean and manly lives, selfishness giving place to altruistic service, through acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Savior and Friend.

"Earth's future glory and its hopes and joys
Lie in the hearts and hands of growing boys.
The world is theirs, to do with as they will;
The world is theirs, for good results or ill.
We soon must give into their outstretched hands
The mighty issues of our changing lands.
In Earth's large house they soon shall take their place,
A menace or a glory to the race.
Tremendous issues on Time's threshold wait;
We need strong men to guide the Ship of State
Into the harbor of the next decade.
Look to the boys from whom strong men are made."

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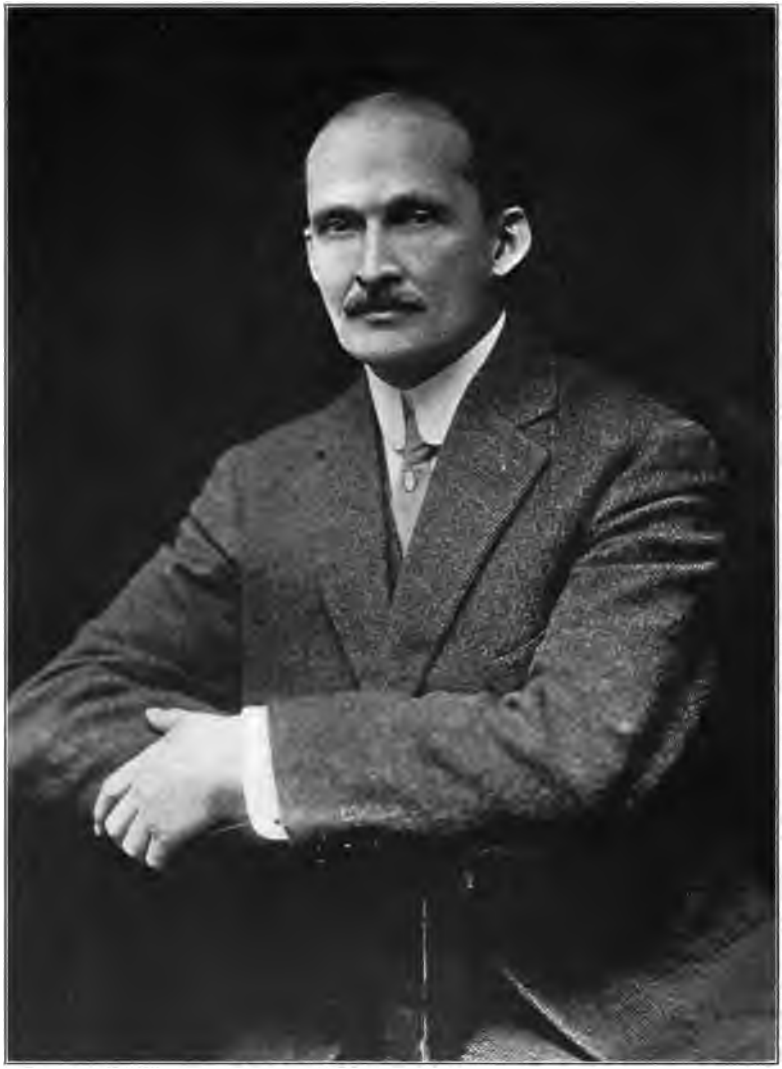

Edgar M. Robinson, State Boys' Secretary (part term). 1898-1900. International Boys' Secretary, 1900 —

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CHAPTER EIGHT

STATE BOYS' SECRETARIES

THERE came to the Sixth Annual Boys' Conference held in Watertown, March 27, 1896, a keen, alert young business man, from St. Stephen, N. B., by the name of E. M. Robinson. He brought with him two friends, Bruce Robb, St. John, N. B., and Harry Snow, Amherst, N. S. Evidently the impression made upon him prompted him to accept an invitation to attend the next Conference held in Wollaston, March 19, 1897, and participate in the program. The kind of an impression he made upon the boys is told in a paragraph taken from *Two States* April, 1897. "In the farewell service Mr. Robinson succeeded in getting the boys to talking more than they did during the rest of the Conference. And their talking was to the point." A third visit was made by him to the Conference held in Hyde Park, May 13 and 14, 1898, and the report says, "Mr. E. M. Robinson of St. Stephen, N. B., one of Canada's most successful workers among boys, was introduced to the delegates at an early stage in the Convention, and at once won a warm place in their estimation." After this Conference, in the fall of 1898, arrangements were made by the State Executive Committee with Mr. Robinson to become Secretary of the Boys' Department, giving part time to the work, so that he could pursue his studies in the Springfield school for Christian workers.

In reply to a request for a history of his life, he sent the following: "The history of my life is very brief. I was born at an early age in St. Stephen, New Brunswick. I came in contact with my first Y. M. C. A. in St. John, N. B., while I was there taking some special studies. It was my pleasure to be one of the charter members of a Y. M. C. A. in St. Stephen in 1891. In 1892 they made me chairman of the Boys' Work Committee; in 1893 we had our first Boys' Camp, which later developed into

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the Maritime Boys' Camp open to boys from the three provinces. They made me chairman of the Maritime Boys' Work Committee about 1895 I think, for I had the pleasure of organizing the First Maritime Boys' Conference, which was held in January, 1897. I think I was chairman of the St. Stephen Boys' Work Committee for about seven years, during which time I was on the Board of Directors, and part of the time I was President.

"The Maritime Boys' Camp and Boys' Conference continued after I left the Provinces, but the St. Stephen Association died a few years afterward. In 1898 I came to the Massachusetts State office, giving half of my time to study at the Springfield school. In 1900 I came to the International Committee."

Mr. Robinson's influence and work in the two States was responsible for creating a desire for a man to give full time to State work. At the Boys' State Conference held in Worcester, February 20 to 22, 1903, this desire for a full time Secretary crystallized into a request to the State Committee for such a man. Under the topic "Our Greatest Need," a Fall River boy, Thomas S. MacKnight, explained that the greatest need was a Boys' State Secretary, "who would visit departments, exchange ideas as to what the Boys' Departments ought to be, become interested in all the boys, and interest business men in the welfare and possibilities of the boys. New organizations would be formed. To bring this about, careful supervision is necessary. Systematic development must bring the boys' work to its highest level. There must be united effort and a center of influence."

Elmer Berry, a Malden boy, followed and said: "All large organizations of every kind recognize the necessity of a central power in order to successfully carry on their work. It is all right to be true and loyal to the local society, but a loyalty that is bounded by town lines is too narrow for a broad Christian character to develop in. A Boys' State Secretary would plan Conventions and Conferences. He would keep in touch with other State Secretaries, and through him the local departments would get a glimpse of the outside world. In short, he would be the central

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power drawing all the departments into a closer brotherhood."

The State Secretary, R. M. Armstrong, always a firm believer in boys' work, followed and said: "A Boys' State Secretary is absolutely necessary for the development of our boys' work. Since the Conference opened, a member of our State Committee, who is present, has offered to give $500 toward the salary of a Secretary, provided that at least $1200 is subscribed." The boys immediately accepted the challenge by subscribing $330.

A campaign for funds began immediately after the Conference, under the leadership of Charles F. Borden of Fall River, chairman of the Boys' Work Committee. The response was so liberal that a call was extended H. W. Gibson, the General Secretary of the Association in Lancaster, Pa., on April 21, 1903, to become the State Boys' Secretary. Mr. Gibson accepted the call, May 15, 1903, and began work September 1, 1903. He holds this responsible position at present writing, and had the privilege of completing twenty-five years of active Secretaryship in the Association, February 21, 1914.

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CHAPTER NINE

THE PHI ALPHA PI FRATERNITY

FOR the purpose of banding boys together in doing worth-while things and service toward others, State Boys' Secretary H. W. Gibson founded the Phi Alpha Pi Fraternity in 1904. To organize in the bonds of friendship groups of boys whose lives should be built upon the truth as found in the Bible, who are willing to progress or advance in Christian manliness, and to render service toward others is the purpose of the fraternity. The motto of this fraternity is "Help the Other Fellow" and its covenant is as follows: "We believe the best and happiest life is the one spent not for self, but for others. With this for our ideal, we pledge our hearty loyalty to our fraternity and to its principles. We will be earnest seekers after truth, we will be friends not only to each other, but to all, and we will do our utmost to advance in true Christian manhood. We will stand everywhere and always for purity and manliness, and strive to make our fraternity a power among the boys of (name city or town)."

There is sufficient of the esoteric in the organization to appeal to every adolescent boy. A ritual, initiation ceremony and a button give a real basis of comradeship. Chapters are organized in associations, churches and boys' clubs in every State. The members have made an excellent record of unselfish service. Each chapter is under adult leadership. Prof. George Walter Fiske, in his book "Boy Life and Self-Government," page 184, says: "After the fraternity has succeeded in leading the boys out of selfish individualism into the broader group selfishness the positive, or obverse of this, which is group honor, the good-of-the-order, should be emphasized, until the height of life is found in the beauty of self-forgetful service. Then altruism is easy and natural. The Phi Alpha Pi

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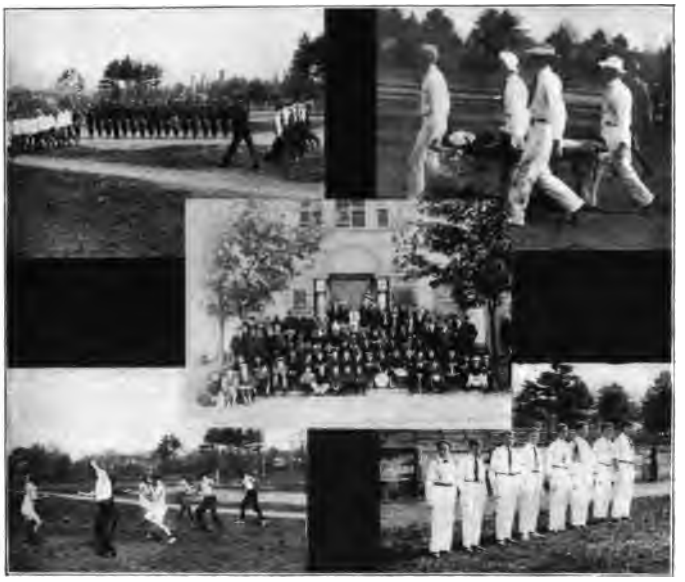
motto "Help the Other Fellow" is ideal. Usually this stage must be prepared for by developing a well-rounded personality in boys who are uneven in their growing manhood. The appeal, therefore, to complete manliness is the normal appeal which crowns and completes right-hearted selfness, and prepares for efficient service. Then comes altruism."



Phi Alpha Pi Activities

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CHAPTER TEN

THE FIRST COUNTY GROUP IN THE UNITED STATES

MASSACHUSETTS has been a pioneer in the development of boys' work in rural communities. The first group organized in Massachusetts and one of the first in the United States, was organized on April 20, 1904, in West Medway. The Phi Alpha Pi form of organization was used. From this idea of group organization of boys in Massachusetts there has spread a movement throughout the entire United States in rural communities

The First County Group in the United States

until now nearly every State where county work is conducted is using substantially the same plans as were inaugurated in the early days in Massachusetts. The following items appear in the report of the first Secretary in Norfolk County — William Jessup Scholar.

"April 20, 1904, met twenty-one boys, from twelve to

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sixteen years of age and none of whom were professing Christians or members of churches. Organized them as a Boys' Group and agreed to meet with them two Monday afternoons each month.

"June 10, 1904, special meeting with the Boys' Group at West Medway at which eight of these boys mentioned as charter members made decision for Christian living and service."

A seventeen-year-old boy from Randolph, Alton E. Roberts attended the Boys' State Conference in Brockton, Mass., February 22 to 24, 1907. At the Sunday afternoon meeting he made a definite decision for Christ. He went back to his home and became the leader of his group. He worked his way through Harvard University, and upon graduation he became one of the Assistant Boys' Secretaries of the Boston Association, February 23, 1911. He remained in the Boston work until June 30, 1912, when he accepted the position of Secretaryship of Carroll County, New Hampshire. He served the boys of this county until the fall of 1913, when he became the Secretary of Hunterton County, New Jersey, his present position.

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The Site of Camp Durrell, 1898, Ipswich Bay Near Gloucester, Mass.

The Group of Boys Attending the 1899 Camp Durrell

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CHAPTER ELEVEN

THE STORY OF CAMPS DURRELL AND BECKET

PREVIOUS to 1900 few records of Camp Durrell are available. It is known, however, that in 1898 and 1899 the camp was conducted on a plot of land in Ipswich Bay near Gloucester, Mass., under the direction of M. C. O'Brien, at that time physical director at Cambridge. The latter part of the 1899 camp, E. M. Robinson, at that time State Secretary of boys' work in Massachusetts, assisted in the management. The present site of Camp Durrell at Moody Island was secured through the co-operation of R. M. Armstrong, then State Secretary of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and M. K. Murray, at that time Secretary of the Association in Bath, Maine. Mr. Armstrong tells the following interesting story regarding the purchase of the Island and the gift of Miss Moody. Captain N. W. Thompson, Friendship, Maine, who has always been a very warm friend of the camp, and who has given much of his time, was one of the benefactors who made the present site of the camp possible.

"On Wednesday, May 10, 1899, Mrs. Armstrong and I left Boston to visit West Southport, Maine, to look up a location for Camp Durrell. Arrived at Bath, Maine, at five o'clock Thursday morning, May 11, and M. K. Murray, then Secretary of the Bath Association, was at the wharf to meet us. We intended to take the early boat (shortly after five) for West Southport, but Mr. Murray said there was another boat about eight o'clock, and wanted us to go to breakfast with him and we accepted his invitation. We returned to the wharf shortly before eight and learned that there was no boat between five A.M., and two-thirty in the afternoon. We went to the Association building and I asked Mr. Murray if he would kindly procure a two-seated rig, at my expense, so that we might see Bath

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The Campus at Camp Durrell on Moody Island, 1913

A Typical Group of Durrellites

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and vicinity. In about thirty minutes a swell team with driver stopped at the building and Mr. Murray, Mrs. Armstrong and I rode off in great style. In about ten minutes the carriage stopped at a large house with spacious grounds and a lady who proved to be Miss Frances Moody came out and took a seat beside Mrs. Armstrong. That was the beginning of our acquaintance. The team and coachman belonged to Miss Moody and, without our knowing it, Mr. Murray had telephoned Miss Moody, suggesting that she entertain us until after dinner. We returned to Miss Moody's at twelve, took dinner there, and she made us promise to spend the night at her home on our way back from West Southport. We remained at West Southport Thursday night, and returned to Bath the next afternoon, May 12, and spent the night at Miss Moody's. Remained in Bath as Miss Moody's guests until six o'clock Saturday afternoon.

"I went to Friendship for the first time Monday, July 9, 1899, and from that time until Miss Moody's death frequently stopped at Bath on the way and enjoyed Miss Moody's hospitality.

"On Thursday, September 7, 1899, started for Friendship with E. M. Robinson, then Boys' State Secretary. I had previously purchased a one-half interest in fifty acres of land (owned by Captain Thompson), on Friendship, Long Island, and I was willing (so was Captain Thompson) to permit the boys' camp to be held on the land without compensation. Mr. Robinson thought it best to have a location on an island, if possible, where there were no occupants. Captain Thompson said he thought Crotch Island could be purchased at a reasonable figure. We hired a team and went to Cushing where the man lived who owned the island (two men — in dividend halves). Captain Thompson and I purchased the island for ourselves, he paying cash ($700) and I gave him my note for $350, I to pay him interest. The understanding was that if I could get some one to purchase the island for the boys' camp, that neither Captain nor I would advance the price. Left Friendship Tuesday, September 12, for Boston, stopping over night at Bath, and was Miss Moody's guest. Told

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her about Crotch (now Moody) Island. Visited Miss Moody Tuesday, February 27, 1900, and at that time she promised to purchase the island or to give $50 each year for interest and taxes and to leave $1000 for us in her will. Later she purchased the island for us and also gave $1000 in her will." The first season of the camp at Moody Island in 1900 was an interesting one. At that time the equipment consisted of an old mess tent, about fifteen of the tents such as now used, two small wells made by sinking drain tiles, two long boats, one of which has since been converted into what is known as "El Capitan," and several heavy dories. There was also a rented launch.

C. A. Jenney

The Superintendent of the camp during 1900 was E. M. Robinson, now International Secretary for boys' work. Mr. Robinson was followed in 1901 by Doctor Page, now Physical Director of Phillips Andover Academy.

In 1902, 1903 and 1904, and one month of 1905, Chas. A. Jenney was Superintendent. During August in 1905, and for the seasons of 1906, 1907 and 1908, the camp was in charge of Albert E. Roberts, State Secretary for county work. In 1909 the State Student Secretary, E. C. Worman, was the Superintendent. From 1910 to 1914 Mr. Jenney again became the Superintendent. G. R. Merriam, Field Secretary, is Mr. Jenney's successor and will be in charge, beginning the season of 1915.

E. C. Worman

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For the first five years the camp was held only for four weeks in July; but in 1905 the season was extended to nine weeks and has continued for this long period ever since. In August, of 1902, the island and equipment were rented by the Boys' Department at Montclair, N. J. In 1903, during August, the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Physical Directors' Conference was held on the island, and in 1904, under the direction of H. W. Gibson, State Secretary for boys' work, an important Boys' Conference was held for ten days in August.

Albert E. Roberts

It is interesting to note the maximum attendance at Camp Durrell at any one time. In 1900, 85; 1901, 125; 1902, 90; 1903, 94; 1904, 141; 1905, 157; 1906, 154; 1907, 222; 1908, 194; 1909, 203; 1910, 244; 1911, 226; 1912, 281; 1913, 179 and 1914, 192.

The older campers will remember with great pleasure the splendid service rendered at camp in 1901, 1903 and 1905 by Doctor Lloyd Wright, who endeared himself to the hearts of many of the boys as Religious Director. During 1902 the pavilion was built and the many improvements made from year to year represent a property and equipment value of $12,000.

The following account of the securing of the site of Camp Becket is given by George W. Hannum, now Assistant Secretary of the Pittsfield Association and who was the first Superintendent of the camp.

"It was during the summer of 1901 that I came in touch with the larger work being done at the boys' camp at Friendship, Maine. In September of that year, I left

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The Site of Camp Becket when Purchased in 1903

In June, 1912, the Boys' Work Secretaries held their first retreat at the Camp. On account of the Culver Assembly, in 1913 the retreat was omitted and was again held here in June, 1914. Here also the General Secretaries met for their retreat at the close of the Boys' Camp in 1913 and 1914.

Flag Raising, and Dedication of Camp Becket, July 1, 1903

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Springfield and went to Dalton as Secretary, but during the following summer saw the great need for a camp in the western part of the State where the boys of the Associations west of Worcester might unite in having a camp conducted on similar lines to the one at Friendship, Maine. I expressed my desire to Mr. R. M. Armstrong, then the State Secretary, and he suggested that I try and find a suitable spot for such a camp, and that he would be glad to see what could be done towards getting the necessary funds to secure a location. Much time was spent during the summer of 1902 in visiting different lakes and ponds in the Berkshires, and late in September of that year Mr. Armstrong and myself visited Becket and went to Yokum Pond and then to Rudd. We at once saw the possibilities in a location on the Curran Farm on Rudd Pond, and after getting all the information we could from people living in that vicinity, we went to Pittsfield, where the owner was then living, and secured from him an option on his farm. We then went to Mr. Fred G. Crane of Dalton, and put the plan before him. He took the matter under consideration and said that if by May of the following year (1903) we had not found any one who would be willing to help in the matter to come to him again. On the first of the next May, Mr. Armstrong went back and saw Mr. Crane and he assured us of his readiness to secure the location for us and requested that we get a clear title of the Curran property. We then consulted Lawyer Milton B. Warner, an old friend of the Dalton Association, who went to much trouble in securing for us a clear title to the property. As soon as this was accomplished, Mr. Crane fulfilled his part and the property was turned over to the State Committee for their development.

In June, 1903, a number of the employed officers of the three Associations in Berkshire County made a trip to the proposed camp's site and went over the plans for holding a camp that summer. A number of the old barns were torn down and the lumber used in making a cookhouse. Mr. C. K. Ferry, of Pittsfield, became interested and donated lumber for boats, and with the volunteer work that was done by members of the Pittsfield and Dalton

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The Campus of Camp Becket, 1914

The Group of Becketites in 1914

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